



H.F. ENGLISH

The

Negro

15 CENTS

NEGRO
INSURANCE
TODAY
BY C.M. HAYES

James

James Randolph, brother of A. Philip Randolph, died January 23, 1928. These lines are by one his many friends.—Editor.

By HEBA JANNATH

He walked delicately
Yet with straight shoulders and unbent
knees
Over the spiked inhibitions
Of life: he rounded
The brutal corners of race-hatred softly
Not from fear
But because he understood too well
The mechanics of oppression;
Noiselessly he trod the forests
Of human bigotry and neither lost himself
In their rank shadows nor sought to rout
The hungry beasts in hiding there;
Lithely and with exquisite lightness
He eased himself through the windows of
superstition
Black and white.
He asked nothing of the world
But to be let alone
To be allowed to gaze
Uncensored at the stars
To measure the universe without bias
To brouse in pastures of wisdom
Undisturbed
And to dream; if you wished to believe
Red was green
That was your business
He was a gentleman
Not a reformer;
A spectator
An epicure
A scholar....
All day
He could lie in the sun
Motionless and content
Listening to the talk of his thots
To the rhythm of the woods
To the clamour of distant traffic
To sudden nearby voices
To the multitudinous weaving in and out
Of life; but when he came to your house
He entered with furtive foot
And a look of suspicion
As if into a trap
For well he knew the tyranny and specious-
ness
Of social exchange—and hastily
yet politely
He would extricate himself
And flee.
Black roustabout
And white rostrarian
Thot him strange
And made it as difficult as possible
For him to remain
A gentleman
An epicure
A scholar;
But it was in vain
That they yelled at him
To leave his sunlit bleachers
And come into the dirt
And play their game
Once,
Lying on his back in St. Nicholas Park
With his eyes in the sky
He quoted to me some lines from a poem
Which he called
"The Singing Nigger"
And when I exclaimed at their beauty
And asked who wrote them
He turned away his head and was silent—

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New Opinion of the New Negro

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THE MESSENGER is the recognized mouth-piece of the more advanced section of the Negro group in the United States. For ten years it has spoken intelligently and eloquently in behalf of organization of labor, white as well as black, believing, as it does, that the questions of wages, hours of work, safeguards on the job and proper representation of the worker, are the most important items confronting the majority of the men and women, white as well as black, in the United States. For two years it has been the official organ of The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters whose organization it espoused and whose battles it has consistently fought.

And when I insisted
He said with a sudden expression of pain
"I did."
And when I wanted to hear more
He looked frightened
Like a deer, which following the scent of
sweet herbs,
Has unwarily set its feet into marshland—
"Some other time," said he quickly
But the time never came.
Now snow has fallen
Over the park
And softly, O, so softly,
Over this muted carpet of frozen cloud
Glides the Spirit of James
Crooning softly
O, so softly—
Too softly for us to hear.

Gypsy Winds

By EULALIA OSBY PROCTOR

Gypsy winds lured me into the fields
Whispering, "We wandered over the hill.
There has one dreamed of you—
Hungered for gleam of you—
Bade us to breathe to you—
He loves you still."

"Brown glints the skin of him—bared to
the sun;
Joyous the heart of him—when day is done,
And fragrant thoughts of you
Come with the dusk and dew;
Sings he, "Be true, be true, daughter of
love!"

Gypsy winds, guide me to scene of his
dreaming!
What tho' it lies beyond sunset's red gleam-
ing?
Soft hands will bathe tired feet—
His arms will make rest sweet—
While lips like pirate bees go—seeking,
seeking!

Oratory

By W. P. DABNEY

Amidst the maze of many words,
Our souls' emotions swell,
In ecstasy we fly to Heaven,
Or sadly sink to Hell.
But when we've drifted back to Earth,
And reason resumes her sway,
We wonder just what 'twas he said,
That took our souls away.

To a Dark Poem

LAURA TANNE

I will bind you in my white fortress
With the sun and moon and stars
Of my love your only illumination.
I will give you drink only from the vessel
Of my soul's martyrdom.
I will feed you only with the cradled gifts
Of my vari-colored passion.
Your raiment, warmer than silk or wool
Will rest upon the pallid loom of my breasts.
And when you cry for freedom
I will open the windows of my hunger.
And let terrible and anguished winds blow
In bleeding prayers for your love and
mercy.



The Messenger

New Opinion of the New Negro



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VOLUME TEN
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MARCH, 1928

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SISTER LOUISE-MARIE PRINCESS OF THE BLOOD ROYAL

By J. A. ROGERS

Noted Negro Author and Journalist

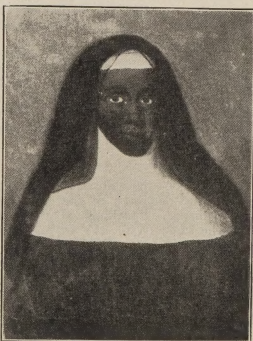
On the walls of the art gallery of the Library of Sainte Genevieve, in the Latin Quarter of Paris there is a picture around which hangs a famous mystery—a mystery quite as baffling as any in the pages of history. This little old picture belonged to the old nuns of St. Genevieve, and represents the head of a Negro woman with bright eyes; a straight, fleshy nose; wearing a nun's veil and around her neck a scapulary of the cloistered order of the 17th Century.

Some of the most famous writers of that time and later have tried their wits on this mystery only to acknowledge themselves beaten. Among them are Voltaire, the Duke de Saint Simon, Mlle. de Montpensier, Lady Morgan, Anquetil, Berthet, and a host of others. This woman was evidently a member of the French royal family and the question was:

"Was she the daughter of Louis XIV by a Negro woman; or was she the daughter of his wife, the Queen Marie Theresa?"

The following is a presentation of both sides, and we begin with a digest of the story as told by LeNotre, who speaks of her as, "One of the most mysterious personages in our annals," one, whose history "resembles the scenario of a romance."

Several years after the death of the queen, Marie Theresa, wife of Louis XIV, and about the time the king had secretly married his favorite, Mme. de Maintenon, an unknown man who said that he was a shoeing smith from an adjoining province of the empire, presented himself at the gates of Versailles and demanded to see the king. The guards took him for a crank, but as he insisted that he had a secret of great importance for the ears of the King alone, the gentlemen of the household finally decided to report the matter to their chief, the Marshal Duras. The latter, when he saw this peasant with his shifty eyes and his clumsy speech and manners also decided that he was a fool, and bade him give his message and be gone. The man said that a few nights before he was returning home



SISTER LOUISE-MARIE
from an old painting

when he saw in the corner of a wood "a dazzling white light which turned out to be a woman in very bright garments with a face that shone like the sun, and who said to him that she was the soul of the dead queen. She then spoke to him and told him a secret that was to be whispered only in the king's ear." Although Marshal Duras questioned him in many different ways the sly old fellow was obdurate. Finally the nobleman losing all patience drove him away, and told him if he did not keep still he'd be clapped in prison.

Duras did not think it worth while to tell the king of the incident and was very much astonished when a few days later the king brought up the matter himself, saying he had heard about it in a letter. Louis XIV, who was "very superstitious" had the peasant brought before him, and was very much struck by his story, since he,

himself, had had an identical dream about the same time.

"Sire," continued the peasant, "the phantom has appeared to me twice, and bade me find you and tell you to publish the fact of your recent marriage."

This sounded much like the intrigue of the court. It seemed to the king that some member of his household learning of his own dream had sent the peasant to him with this story. He raised his cane to strike the peasant when the latter throwing himself on his knees said in supplication:

"Sire, if you doubt me I can give infallible proof. The spectre that I saw told me to speak to you in the name of the Negro woman of Moret."

The king turned as pale as death, and seizing the hand of the peasant, imposed silence on him. That same evening the man was conducted to the Bastille, where luxuries were heaped on him, but where nevertheless he was held a prisoner in great secret.

Twenty years before, says LeNotre, an African prince had sent the Queen, by M. de Beaufort, Grand Admiral of France, the present of a little Negro dwarf. "The queen was very much attached to the little Negro. He could now be seen on the carpet playing like a little cat, making somersaults, or mounting on tables and bureau drawers; sometimes on the sofa and even on the knees of the queen."

"He was dressed after the manner of his native Africa, and wore rich bracelets, armlets, a string of precious stones, his turban was magnificent, and Mme. de Maintenon gave him a superb aigrette of rubies and diamonds."

All the other ladies following the example of the queen wished to have little Negroes to accompany them in order better to show off the whiteness of their complexions, and to carry their trains.

"This is how it happens that Mignard and the other painters of the time placed little Negroes in all their great portraits; it was

a mode, a frenzy which did not last after the accident of which the misadventure of the queen was the innocent cause.

"It happened that the queen was about to become a mother . . . when she became inquiet and said all the time: 'I no longer recognize myself. I experience strange disquiets and caprices such as never happened before. If I were to do as I wanted to I would be cutting somersaults on the carpet like my little Negro, and eating green fruits, and living birds like him.'"

"Ah, madame," replied the king, "you make me shiver. Forget your foolish fancies or you will have a child, bizarre, ridiculous and against nature."

"The king's predictions were fulfilled. There was born to her some time later a pretty little girl black as ink from head to foot. The doctors were assembled in one room: the bishops and the chaplains in another. One of the prelates was opposed to baptizing her, and another would consent only *under condition*. The majority decided that the little Negro girl would be baptized without the name of father or mother, and that she should be sent away at once, which they did to the coast of Gisors to be reared by a nurse. A notice was placed in the Gazette of France that the royal infant had died. . . . Later the queen in explanation . . . declared that the Negro dwarf had hidden himself behind a chair and frightened her.

"The mysterious child lived. As soon as she could reason she was placed in the convent of Moret, where the king, himself went once to make sure that she was alive. She lived and died there under the name of the Black Nun. It is not known whether the secret of her birth was ever revealed."

It seems so, however, for one day when the Dauphin (heir to the throne), was hunting in a wood nearby and she heard who it was, she was heard to sob behind the bars of her cell and murmur as she wiped her eyes:

"It is my brother who is hunting."

"What, in any case, cannot be doubted," continues LeNotre "is the existence and the perfect authority of the picture that the library of Saint Genevieve possesses. It was already celebrated in the last century and the Ste. Genevievians showed it—with discretion, it is true—as one of the most precious pieces of their treasure."

* * *

The Duke de St. Simon in his "Memoirs" Vol. II, says:

"Speaking of the secrets of the king and his intimate servants it is necessary to make amends for something else I had forgotten. Everyone was astonished at Fontainebleau this year to see that hardly had the princess arrived than Mme. de Maintenon took her to the little convent of Moret where there was likely to be no amusements or persons of her acquaintance. She returned there several times, which awoke curiosity and rumours. Mme. de Maintenon went often to Fontainebleau and finally one got accustomed to seeing her go there."

"In this convent was a professed nun, a Negro woman, unknown to everyone and who never showed herself to anyone. Bon-temps, first valet to the king and governor of Versailles to whom I have spoken and to whom the domestic secrets of the king are known, had placed her there quite young after paying a large sum, and a regular

For White Only

"For White Only." The letters shine;
They anger me and chill my spine.
Through trees and clouds I see that
sign:
"For White Only."

Three hundred years of toil and tears,
Of pigny hopes and giant fears
Three hundred years of sneers and
leers:
"For White Only."

Land of the Free, Home of the Brave
Who cleft our chains and freedom
gave
Why wound the grandson of your
slave
By "White Only."

pension. He took great care that everything that could add to her comfort was provided. The late queen went often to Fontainebleau to see her and after her Mme. de Maintenon.

"The Dauphin went there several times, and the princess and the children several times, and all asked for this Negro woman and treated her with kindness. She was receiving more marks of distinction than the best known or the most distinguished person there. . . .

"It is said that she was the daughter of the king and the queen, that her color had caused her to be hidden there, and after her disappearance, to be published that the queen had had a miscarriage. Many of the people of the Court believe this. But whatever it be it remains a mystery."

* * *

Voltaire was of the opinion that the Black Nun was the daughter of the king by a Negro woman. Speaking of the king's children he said: (Vol. XIV of his works: The Century of Louis XIV.)

"It is believed and with good reason that the nun in the convent of Moret is his daughter. She was very dark, almost black and resembled the king. The king gave her a dot of 20,000 crowns and placed her in the convent. The belief that she was of royal birth gave her a pride of which the Mother Superior complained."

In a footnote Voltaire adds that he visited the convent himself and saw her. He was accompanied by M. de Caumartin, Treasurer of France, who, he says, "had a right to visit the convent."

But were the Black Nun the illegitimate daughter of the king by a black woman would the queen and her children have shown so much interest in, and affection towards her? As one writer, (G. L.), in "His Note on the Negress of Moret," asks: "Would the queen, Marie-Theresa, the Dauphin, the duke and the duchess of Bourgogne, have shown the same attachment to her?" Besides the king had other adulterine children.

Further, she bore the names of both the king and the queen; Louise-Marie. Again Mlle. de Montpensier, duchess of Orleans and cousin of the king in her "Memoirs" also mentions that the queen had given birth to an eight months' old girl that resembled a Negro, due to the fact that the queen

had had the Negro dwarf under her eyes, and that the dwarf had been taken away "but it was too late."

* * *

So far as the matter of color is concerned the Black Nun might have been a mystery in these days but in this hard-boiled age we are inclined to be a bit more sceptical. There is little doubt that the woman, if she was of royal descent, was the daughter of the queen.

The king is dead, royalty no more rules in France, and we may express without fear of lese majeste the thought that must have bubbled in the brains of the more knowing members of the Court. Here, they must have thought, is a black dwarf and here is the queen with a black child. Other ladies have, too, their little blackamoors, why, do they not have dark brown children? It is true that the age of the dwarf was given as "ten or twelve" but the age of juveniles is usually judged by their size. Dwarfs usually look younger than they are. This one was only two feet tall.

Sir John Alexander tells an instance in South Africa where the white wife of a white farmer gave birth to a black child. In explaining the matter she said that she had been frightened by a black man. But some time later her unmarried sister also presented the family with a black child. Now it is as difficult for an unmarried white woman to get away with that sort of story, as it would be for any woman to get away with the story of a virgin birth these days. So inquiry was at once started. Result: the same black man was discovered to be the father of both children.

There is also the question of atavism, that is, that if either of the parents has "a drop of black blood," the same is likely to come out in their children. This is very much like going to the clouds for a reason when one lies right before our noses. In the expose of race-mixing in Virginia which I published in the Negro press two years ago, many instances were given of white women presenting their husbands with mulatto babies,—instances in which the black father was known.

Again, would an unmarried white woman be able to get away with this matter of "atavism?"

This reminds one of the story of the greenhorn whose wife presented him with an heir after five months of marriage. Puzzled, he consulted a specialist, who assured him that such rapid processes occur only the first year of marriage. After that, he said, all would be quite regular.

As to the matter of pre-natal influence, every psychologist worthy of his name today views it with scepticism. The lower animals and even the plants, produce deformed or abnormal offspring, and must we also say that even these inanimate things were influenced by their "minds,"—that "something" frightens them, too.

This theory is on a par with what the Christian Scientists who insist that disease is a state of mind, when the germ that causes the disease is plainly distinguishable under the microscope, and the lower animals, the plants, and even buildings and objects of furniture have their own particular germs that gnaw them, causing what may be called disease.

(Continued on page 70)

OUR INSURANCE COMPANIES

By C. M. HAYES

A Statistical Report Prepared for THE NATIONAL NEGRO INSURANCE ASSOCIATION

By C. W. HAYES

President, Gibraltar Health and Accident Insurance Company, Indianapolis, Ind.

PART I.

The business of Life Insurance is the largest business that is owned, operated and controlled by Negroes. It is not only the largest, but is the most scientific and complicated and requires the greatest skill in management. It gives protection, service and employment in a larger degree and truer sense to mankind than any other kind or class of business.

In order to value the business of Life Insurance conducted among our people by our own companies at its true worth; to appreciate the many and varied services rendered; to understand it in its composite form; and that the magnitude of the opportunity it offers to Negro youths may be realized more fully, the National Negro Insurance Association with its official family becomes the National Negro Insurance Company with each of the member companies as a branch.

In order to secure the aggregate of Life Insurance business transacted in the United States by the National Negro Insurance Association, or "The National Negro Insurance Company" and its financial statement as of December 31, 1926, copies of annual statements made to the Insurance Departments of the various states in which they operate were submitted by twenty-five (25) companies, members of this Association. Statistical data for three other Negro companies was secured from other sources.

The companies whose records go to make up this report are as follows:

Afro-American Life Insurance Company, Jacksonville, Fla.
Atlanta Life Insurance Company, Atlanta, Georgia.
Citizen Industrial Life Insurance Company, Jacksonville, Fla.
Domestic Life and Accident Insurance Company, Louisville, Ky.
Douglas Life Insurance Company, New Orleans, La.
Golden State Guaranty Fund Insurance Company, Los Angeles, Cal.
Guaranty Life Insurance Company, Savannah, Ga.
Gibraltar Health and Accident Insurance Co., Indianapolis, Ind.
King Mutual Life Insurance Company, Edenton, North Carolina.
Liberty Life Insurance Company, Chicago, Ill.
Liberty Industrial Life Insurance Company, New Orleans, La.
Louisiana Industrial Life Insurance Company, New Orleans, La.
Mammoth Life and Accident Insurance Company, Louisville, Ky.
National Benefit Life Insurance Company, Washington, D. C.
North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, Durham, N. C.
North Eastern Life Insurance Company, Newark, N. J.
Pelican Industrial Life Insurance Company, Shreveport, La.
Peoples Industrial Life Insurance Company, Jacksonville, Fla.
Pyramid Mutual Insurance Company, Chicago, Ill.

Richmond Beneficial Insurance Company, Richmond, Va.
Security Life Insurance Company, Tulsa, Okla.
Southern Aid Society of Virginia, Richmond, Va.
Supreme Life and Casualty Company, Columbus, Ohio.
Underwriters Mutual Life Insurance Company, Chicago, Ill.
Union Central Relief Association, Birmingham, Ala.
Unity Industrial Life Insurance Company, New Orleans, La.
Universal Life Insurance Company, Memphis, Tenn.
Victory Life Insurance Company, Chicago, Ill.

Estrangement

By GRACE RICHARDSON

I lost a precious thing today:
A rose curled black with frost,
A field of waving wheat now stubble
tossed,
And you without a word to say
Of these bare branches laced upon
a cold blue sky.
Oh why, and why, and why
This intimacy chilled and flung
Into a desert where no song is sung?
Having knowledge of life's bitter way
But leaves me as an animal at bay.
Unrelentless truth to bear
A love that you no longer share.

Meanwhile we shall be
The continent apart
Time and space whereof
To look into the heart
And learn its true desires:
Chilled passion or re-kindled fires.
That I did find the strength
To tear myself away
From you whose love for me
Was fast approaching a decay
Was but a puny effort
To evade love's mock report
And in my inner self I pray
If only, only I don't stay.

From the data contained in our statistical report of last year and the compilations of this year's statistics we have the pleasure of submitting to you a comparative statement for the years of 1925 and 1926, which shows the progress, or the lack of progress, made in each department during 1926.

From the comparative statement, Part II of this report, 1926 showed a general and substantial increase being made in all departments, together with a proportionate amount of reduction in the number and amount of claims paid.

Statistics of the twenty-eight companies listed showed an increase during the year of 1926 of one million, six hundred and twenty thousand, one hundred and twenty-four dollars (\$1,620,124) in gross income, and an increase of two hundred and eighty thousand, four hundred and fifty-two dollars (\$284,452) in the net income over 1925. The statistics also show an increase of two million, three hundred and fifty-nine thousand, seven hundred and twenty-four

dollars (\$2,359,724) in gross assets; one million, five hundred and ninety-two thousand, seven hundred and three dollars (\$1,592,703) increase in admitted assets; two hundred and fifty-eight thousand dollars (\$258,000) increase in the combined Capital Stock; three million, five hundred and thirty-seven thousand, eight hundred and seventy-seven dollars (\$3,537,877) increase in surplus-reserve to policyholders, and an increase of nine hundred and seventy-eight thousand and sixty-eight dollars (\$978,068) in the amount of real estate owned for 1926 over 1925.

CLAIMS PAID: It is also shown from the comparative statement, Part II, that there was an increase of only seventy-one thousand, two hundred and fifty dollars (\$71,250) in the amount of sick and accident claims paid in 1926 over 1925; even though the same statistics show an increase of seventeen million, six hundred and two thousand, two hundred and thirty-seven dollars (\$17,602,237) in the amount of sick and accident business in force as of December 31, 1926, over 1925. An evidence of a closer inspection and rejection of unjust claims, the elimination of undesirables, and a higher degree of efficiency, co-operation and loyalty in all departments of the companies as a whole.

It is also shown that there was an increase of three hundred and twenty-five thousand, two hundred and forty-eight dollars (\$325,248) in the amount of Industrial Life claims paid during 1926 over 1925, which was normal; and an increase in the Industrial Life business in force as of December 31, 1926, over 1925 of twenty-three million, one hundred and seven thousand, three hundred and thirty-eight dollars (\$23,107,338).

The comparative statement shows an increase of two hundred and thirty-six thousand, nine hundred and ten dollars (\$236,910) in the amount of claims paid on Ordinary business in 1926 over 1925, which is almost double the amount paid in 1925. The largest percent increase made in any class of insurance for claim paid. The statistics show that there was an increase of thirty-eight million, five hundred and seventy-eight thousand, four hundred and twenty-five dollars (\$38,578,425) in the amount of Ordinary business in force December 31, 1926, over 1925, which was also the largest amount of increase made in any class of business written. The amount of increase in business in force for all classes over 1925 was seventy-nine million, two hundred and eighty-eight thousand dollars (\$79,288,000).

It is also shown from the comparative statement that there was nine million, four hundred and eighty-three thousand, seven hundred and forty-nine dollars (\$9,483,749) more sick and accident business written during the year 1926 than during the year 1925; fifteen million, four hundred and eighty-seven thousand, six hundred and twenty-six dollars (\$15,487,626) more Industrial Life business for 1926 than 1925, and twenty-four million, two hundred and seventy-nine thousand, seven hundred and twenty-two dollars (\$24,272,722) more ordinary business for 1926 than 1925. The amount of increase in business written in 1926 over 1925 for all classes was forty-nine million, two hundred and fifty-one thousand and ninety-seven dollars (\$49,251,097). Also that there was an increase in the number of employed of three thousand, seven hundred and seventy (3,770);

THE MESSENGER

and an estimated increase in the amount of business in force in the United States on Colored lives of five hundred and twenty-six million dollars (\$526,000,000).

It is also shown from the reports submitted that the per cent or net income for 1926 for twelve per cent (12%) as over against ten per cent (10%) in 1925; and

forty-one thousand, five hundred and forty-nine dollars and fifty-five cents (\$41,549.55) of the cost of management was paid for printing and advertisement; of which amount about one hundred and fifteen thousand, two hundred and seventy-nine dollars and thirty-four cents (\$15,279.34) or eighty-two per cent (82%) was paid to Negro printers.

The average per cent of actual to the expected mortality, as reported by nineteen (19) of the twenty-seven (27) companies included in this report, was eighty-four and three-tenths per cent (84.3%), an apparent gain from the mortality experience of fifteen and seven-tenths per cent (15.7%) for these companies. This apparent favorable mortality experience, however, should not be a cause for exuberance or over joy, as reports from some of the older companies showed their actual mortality to be as high as one hundred and thirty-eight per cent (38%) of the expected. The small average mortality for companies reported was due to the small per cent reported by the younger companies; the average for some was as low as thirty-three per cent (33%).

PART II COMPARATIVE STATEMENT FOR THE YEARS OF 1925 AND 1926

ITEMS	Dec. 31, 1925	Dec. 31, 1926	Increase over 1925
Income (gross)	\$12,236,618	\$13,856,742	\$1,620,124
Disbursements	11,008,603	12,347,273	1,338,672
Totals (Net Income)	\$1,228,515	\$1,509,462	\$281,452
Gross Assets	\$8,811,067	\$11,170,791	\$2,359,724
Admitted Assets	8,562,516	10,155,219	1,592,703
Capital Stock	1,573,090	1,831,090	258,000
Surplus-Reserve	5,287,099	8,824,976	3,537,877
Real Estate Owned	1,922,205	2,900,273	978,068
CLAIMS PAID			
Sick and Accident	\$3,021,806	\$3,093,056	\$71,250
Industrial Life	816,980	1,142,228	325,248
Ordinary	291,487	528,397	236,910
Totals	\$4,130,273	\$4,763,681	\$633,408
CLAIMS PAID SINCE ORGANIZATION estimated)	\$40,000,000	\$44,763,681	\$4,763,681
BUSINESS IN FORCE			
Sick and Accident	\$32,849,300	\$50,451,537	\$17,602,237
Industrial Life	73,910,925	97,018,263	23,107,338
Ordinary	57,486,275	96,064,700	38,578,425
Totals	\$164,246,500	\$243,534,500	\$79,288,000
BUSINESS WRITTEN			
Sick and Accident	\$16,096,199	\$25,579,948	\$9,483,749
Industrial Life	33,777,189	49,264,815	15,487,626
Ordinary	21,052,706	45,332,428	24,279,722
Totals	\$70,926,094	\$120,177,191	\$49,251,097
NUMBER EMPLOYED	5,330	9,100	3,770
BUSINESS IN FORCE ON COLORED LIVES (estimated)	\$1,399,000,000	\$1,925,000,000	\$526,000,000

PART III COST OF INSURANCE

Under the caption, Cost of Insurance, not only the cost of writing insurance or the cost of securing new business, but the cost of taking care of the business after it has once been secured as well as all items of cost incidental to the management is considered. Under this head is also considered the basis of Agency Contracts for each class and kind of business.

The reports submitted by the various companies show that the basis of the average agency contract in force for the various kinds and classes of business to be as follows:

ORDINARY:

- Whole Life—50% of first year premiums and 5% renewals for three years.
- N. Pay Life—45% first year premiums and 5% renewals for three years.
- Endowments—35% first year premiums and 5% renewals for three years.

INDUSTRIAL LIFE:

Twenty per cent (20%) commission on collections and fifteen (15) times net increase.

SICK AND ACCIDENT:

Twenty per cent (20%) commission on collections and ten per cent (10%) on net increase.

that the per cent of claims to the Gross Income for both years—1925 and 1926—was thirty-four per cent (34%); and that the cost of insurance for 1925 was fifty-six per cent (56%), and the cost of 1926 was fifty-four per cent (54%), which was two per cent (2%) less than the cost for 1925.

It was shown in our 1925 report from statistics published in the April 29, 1926, issue of the Spectator, in which exhibit two hundred and eighty-one companies were included, that thirty per cent (30%) of the gross income was net in contrast to ten per cent (10%) net income for twenty-three (23) Colored companies, which was twenty per cent (20%) less than the per cent of net income made by the two hundred and eighty-one (281) companies. This difference in the per cent of net income may be accounted for in part, to the programs of expansions of the young Negro companies, where, in many instances, the cost was as high as one hundred and forty per cent (140%) of the premium income; and to a greater per cent of waste due, in a large measure, to inadequate supervision and a greater duplication of effort on the part of the Negro companies.

Of the fifty-four per cent (54%) of the gross income, which represents the cost of insurance, approximately forty-three per cent (43%) was paid in salaries and commissions to agents and employees, and the remaining eleven per cent (11%) was distributed over the other items of cost of management.

It was also shown from the reports submitted that approximately one hundred and

PART IV INVESTMENTS

Reports from twenty-two (22) companies out of twenty-eight (28) included in this report showed that the average rate of interest earned on all investments for 1926 was five and four-tenths per cent (5.4%). Several of the companies reported a net rate of interest earned as high as seven and eight per cent; some failed to earn the required three and one-half and four per cent, while still others failed to earn anything, but showed a net loss on investments.

The class of securities in which investments were made which brought the largest net earnings was "Real Estate Mortgages," averaging six and one-half and seven per cent. The class which brought the smallest net earnings was "Collateral Loans."

Of the eleven millions, one hundred and seventy thousand, seven hundred and ninety-one dollars (\$11,170,791) GROSS ASSETS, twenty-six per cent (26%) or two million, nine hundred thousand, two hundred and seventy-three dollars (\$2,900,273) was invested in Real Estate; or three per cent more invested in Real Estate in 1926 than in 1925. A notable decrease was observed in the amounts invested in Government Securities, and a marked increase in the amounts invested in Tax Exempt Municipal Bonds. The rate of interest on Investment in Government, State and Municipal Bonds amounted to approximately sixty-five per cent.

PART V MORTALITY EXPERIENCE ON COLORED LIVES

ORDINARY: A report made to the Actuarial Society of America published recently by Mr. J. D. Craig, Actuary for the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, showed that the Medico-Actuarial investigation covered Colored Lives, subdividing them into Colored ministers, teachers and other professional (non-professional) in other Colored men in one class, and in another class. There were ninety-three thousand, two hundred and sixty-two (93,262) exposures with nine hundred and ninety-four (994) deaths in both classes combined, enough to give a very definite idea of the mortality on risks issued under ordinary policies. The ratio of actual to expected deaths upon the M. A. Table was

THE MESSENGER

one hundred and thirty seven per cent (137%) for professional men, and one hundred and forty-seven per cent (147%) for other men. The experience of the Prudential on its Industrial policies as published on page one hundred and thirty-six (136) of the "Proceedings of the Fourth International Congress of Actuaries" shows the Colored mortality ranging from two hundred and fifty-five per cent (255%) of the White mortality at the ages fifteen to nineteen (15-19) down to ninety-six per cent (96%) at the ages of seventy-five to seventy-nine (75-79), so that the high mortality on Colored lives is manifest in both Ordinary and Industrial business.

The experience of many of the larger companies with their Ordinary business shows that the effect of selection wears off rapidly and that ultimate mortality is practically reached in the second year; and that the mortality on females is higher than that on males.

The Medico-Actuarial investigation showed that the mortality in certain of the Southern States was materially high. The ratio as shown on page eighteen (18) of volume V ranged from one hundred and twelve per cent (112%) in Texas, other than Gulf countries, to one hundred and seventy-eight (178) in Mississippi, Gulf and delta countries. Naturally more care is exercised in acceptance of ordinary risks than in acceptance of Intermediate and Industrial risks and the results would be expected to be more in harmony with those shown by the Medico-Actuarial investigation.

ORDINARY: EXPERIENCE ON WHITE AND COLORED LIVES IN CERTAIN SOUTHERN STATES. PROBABLE CLAIMS BASED ON THE M. A. TABLE.

The ratio of actual to expected mortality based on number for Southern States is given below as follows:

State (Lower Tier)	Ratio of Actual to Expected Mortality
Alabama	126%
Arkansas	143%
Florida	125%
Georgia	131%
Louisiana	135%
Mississippi	116%
South Carolina	126%
Texas	113%—an average of 128%
Upper Tier	
Kentucky	119%
Maryland	96%
Missouri	104%
North Carolina	111%
Tennessee	114%
Virginia	107%—an average of 108%

or an average for the upper and lower tier combined of 116%.

The lower tier of states shows higher mortality than the other states, but it is also equally clear that the mortality on Colored lives is heavy, no matter where the insured resides. The mortality in the other states is only ten per cent (10%) less than the total according to the standard adopted, and shows an excess mortality on Colored lives of fifty-six per cent (56%) according to the American men's select table and twenty-six per cent (26%) according to the Metropolitan ordinary table, or a mean of forty-one per cent.

INDUSTRIAL CLASS: The standard industrial mortality table is used for the purpose of computing the probable claims. Exposures on Industrial policies from 1911 to 1919 shows the percentage of Actual to the probable of Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's Industrial policy to be

one hundred and nineteen per cent (119%) for its Colored business and eighty-one per cent (81%) for its White business, an excess mortality of thirty-eight per cent (38%) of the Colored over the White.

Another interesting development is shown from statistics compiled by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company that when compared with tables prepared from experience during the calendar year 1896-1905, that while the White mortality seems to have improved at practically every age, the Colored mortality has shown an increase for all ages from about thirty (30) years up, and a decrease for the younger ages.

In the "Mortality Statistics of Insured Wage-Earners and Their Families," as published by Mr. Dublin in 1919 from the experience of the Industrial class of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company during 1911 to 1916 shows that for ages one to four (1-4) the deaths from all forms of

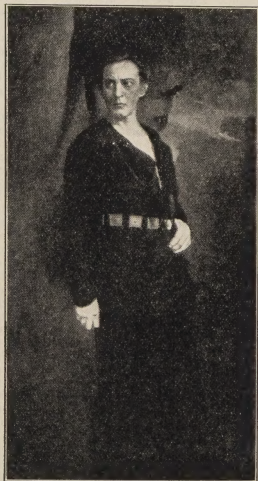
cause of death, although Tuberculosis is responsible for more of the extra deaths than any other one cause. The Industrial table shows that over one-half of the extra mortality at the younger ages is attributable to this one disease, and also that the females suffer more than the males. The effect of the age is shown also in the Industrial table. At the ages ten to fourteen (10-14) fifty-five per cent (55%) of the extra Colored mortality on males is due to Tuberculosis, while on female sixty-seven per cent (67%) of the extra mortality is accounted for. At ages fifty-five to sixty-four (55-64), eleven per cent (11%) of the excess is due to Tuberculosis for males, while only five per cent (5%) for females. On Industrial policies the death rate from Pneumonia is high, especially at younger ages, but the proportion of deaths from this cause does not appear to be particularly high in the Ordinary. The higher proportion in the Ordinary next to Tuberculosis is Acute Nephritis and Bright's Disease, the excess rate for which in the Industrial is also high at the older ages.

The deaths from organic diseases of the heart do not show a large percentage in the Ordinary, but such deaths are numerous at older ages in the Industrial.

A comparison of the mortality of Negro males and White males in the Original Registration States based upon the 1910 censuses as shown by the United States Life tables published by the Bureau of Census, shows that the infantile mortality rate among Negro males in the original Registration States (Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Indiana and Michigan and the District of Columbia) to be nearly twice that of the White males. In other states, Southern especially, and in certain cities the ratio of Negro infantile mortality runs as high as seven to one (7-1) to the White infantile mortality. The United States Life tables show that out of each one hundred thousand (100,000) Negro males born, excluding still births, in the original registration states, that seven thousand three hundred and seventy (7,370) will die before the end of the first month over against four thousand eight hundred and forty-four (4,844) White males out of one hundred thousand (100,000) born alive; and that twenty-one thousand nine hundred and thirty-five (21,935) Negro males will die before the end of the first year over against twelve thousand three hundred and twenty-six (12,326) White males out of one hundred thousand (100,000) born alive. The United States Life Tables also show that out of each one hundred thousand (100,000) Negro females born alive six thousand three hundred and eighty (6,380) will die before the end of the first month over against three thousand seven hundred and eighty-seven (3,787) White females; that out of one hundred thousand (100,000) born alive that eighteen thousand five hundred and seven (18,507) Negro females will die before they reach the end of the first year over against ten thousand two hundred and sixty-six (10,266) White females.

It is interesting to note that the mortality rate for infant males during the first year for both White and Colored is greater than the females for both White and Colored races.

The United States life tables also show that out of each one hundred thousand (100,000) Negro males born alive sixty-six thousand and three hundred and seventy-seven (66,377) will live to reach the age of ten (10) years over against eighty-one thousand five hundred and nineteen (81,519) White males; sixty-one thousand four hundred and twenty-six (61,426) Negro males will reach the age of twenty (20) years



JOHN BARRYMORE AS "HAMLET"

From a portrait by O. Richard Reid, noted Negro painter.

tuberculosis were seventy-eight and four-tenths (78.4) for White males and two hundred and sixty-nine and two-tenths (269.2) for Colored males per one hundred thousand (100,000) persons exposed, or an excess on Colored males of one hundred and ninety and eight tenths (190.8).

In the Intermediate and Industrial classes the total female Colored mortality seems to be somewhat better than the males, although in the Ordinary the reverse is true. It is emphasized, however, that female mortality is relatively higher where the opportunity for selection against the company is present, and this may account for the higher percentage for females in the Ordinary as compared with the lower percentage in the Intermediate and Industrial where female lives are insured with greater freedom.

From tables compiled in recent years from the mortality experience of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, it is shown that the extra mortality on Colored lives is not attributable to any particular

over against seventy-nine thousand one hundred and sixteen (79,116) White males; forty-five thousand four hundred and fourteen (45,414) Negro males will reach the age of forty (40) years over against sixty-eight thousand eight hundred and forty-eight (68,848) White males; thirty-five thousand four hundred and twenty-seven (35,427) Negro males will reach the age of fifty (50) years over against sixty thousand seven hundred and forty-one (60,741) White males; twenty-three thousand seven hundred and fifty Negro males will reach the age of sixty (60) years over against forty-eight thousand nine hundred and eighty-seven (48,987) White males; and at the age of eighty (80) years three thousand eight hundred and ninety-four (3,894) Negro males over against twelve thousand one hundred and sixty (12,160) Whites. At the age of eighty (80) the number dying per each thousand alive was greater for the Whites than for the Negro, being one hundred and thirty-five seventy-five hundredths (135.75) for the Whites and one hundred and thirty-one twenty-one hundredths (131.27) for the Negro. From this point on the death rate per each thousand alive is greater for the Whites than the Colored, and the expectancy is greater for the Colored than for the Whites—being five and fifty-three hundredths (5.53) years for the Colored over against five and nine hundredths (5.09) for the Whites.

Owing to the excess mortality on Colored lives and the difference in the expectation of life it is evident and imperative, all things being equal, that either an additional premium charge should be made, and rates based upon tables that more nearly reflect the actual present day mortality of the Negro lives should be computed, as the present average premium charge is inadequate to take care of the excess mortality on Colored lives; or, in order to meet the competition of other companies insuring Negro risks at the regular premium charges based upon the standard rates computed from the present day and accepted mortality tables—American Experience Actuaries or combined, Standard Industrial and others, the Negro companies must institute more efficient systems of strict economy in management, lower salaries and wages; larger earnings on investments; by united effort and co-operation through the National Negro Insurance Association, or groups of companies operating in the same states and territories reduce duplication of efforts to the minimum consistent with good business principles.

Young companies having highly favorable mortality experience should not become over confident or jubilant, because the effect of selection wears off rapidly. Strict economy should be maintained at all times from the very beginning, extra reserves in addition to the regular reserves required by law should be maintained to take care of the excess mortality on Colored lives.

A study of the latest statistics available reveals that the ratio of the actual to the expected mortality on Colored lives is in excess of thirty per cent. (30%). To properly take care of this excess mortality rate an emergency reserve of at least thirty-three per cent (33%) of the legal valuation should be maintained in addition to regular reserve required by law, created by systems of strict economy, smaller dividends and greater earnings on investments, same emergency reserve decreasing as the mortality on Negro lives improves.

The foregoing statistics have been compiled from the experience of several of the large White companies. The Medico-Actuarial investigation and United States Life Tables, published by the Bureau of Census, under the supervision of Prof. James W. Glover, of the University of Michigan.

The requested data pertaining to mortality experience of the Colored companies, members of this organization, has been submitted by only seven companies. The number of exposures and deaths were not large enough to furnish any definite idea of the mortality on risks under either the Ordinary or Industrial class. It is to be desired, that Negro companies will organize and maintain statistical departments for the specific purpose of furnishing reliable data for Actuarial and Medical research work, whereby the experience of Negro risks may be made available for scientific study.

PART VI

LIFE EXTENSION WORK

Health Program

In view of the high rate of mortality among Colored people as set forth in the preceding chapter the questions that naturally present themselves are: Is death preventable? Can life be conserved? The experience of every insurance man who has gone into the homes of policyholders has shown him that there was much preventable sickness and death. It is said that as many as one-half the deaths occurring could be postponed for many years through life extension work and with an intelligent and active Health Program.

The high mortality among our people and policyholders makes a program for the conservation of life imperative. Programs of life conservation that contain important factors in death prevention have been placed in operation by many of the leading insurance companies of the country. It has been found that many policyholders die because of the lack of adequate care in sickness. To overcome this condition many companies have established free nursing service for their sick members, and they report their experience as being very favorable. The Metropolitan reports that the free nursing service of that Company, made one and one-half million visits to three hundred thousand (300,000) sick policyholders; and that thirteen per cent (13%) of the nursing service is extended to Colored people, which is a little higher than the proportion of Colored persons insured in the Industrial Department of the company. They also report that the Colored policyholders are especially appreciative of this phase of their health work.

Other factors that go to make up the program for life conservation, are free medical examinations at stated periods; free diseases, their course and prevention; free clinics and the distribution of leaflets describing the various diseases, their cause and prevention, especially whenever there is an epidemic of disease prevalent in a community, or when and where an epidemic is anticipated or threatened. Also leaflets pertaining to the care of children, in families where there are young children, have cut down materially the high infantile mortality.

The Avenue

By LAURA TANNE

Through the white snow we walked
Where no ghost of prejudice had ever stalked

Soul in soul and arm in arm entwined
He, brown, and I, pink-white—
Strange flowers of a common vine.

White folks chapered in wild concern
Their stupid egos could not discern
Our love walked in the pure white snow
Where their mud-cased souls could never go.

In recent years there has been a great improvement in Colored mortality, although it is still far in excess of White mortality. The Metropolitan Life Insurance Company reports that their colored policyholders have availed themselves of every advantage which has been offered to them. That in periods of illness, they have received nursing care and have in fact taken advantage of public health nursing even to a greater degree than White policyholders. Public health nursing obtains its largest results primarily through health teaching. Metropolitan reports that it has distributed millions of copies of authoritative leaflets on personal hygiene among its Colored policyholders.

In order to ascertain the amount of Life conservation work being done by the members of the National Negro Insurance Association a questionnaire was mailed to each Negro company in the country; and out of twenty-eight replies the reports of only two companies showed any real conservation work being done on a large scale in one direction. These two companies, namely, the Afro-American Life Insurance Company of Jacksonville, Florida, and the Unity Industrial Life Insurance Company of New Orleans, Louisiana, reported that their experience in conservation work had been very favorable and highly profitable. Each of these companies maintained (a) free clinics, (b) provided free medical examination to their policyholders, (c) maintained staff of visiting nurses, and (d) distributed large quantities of health literature. Five other companies reported as having distributed several thousand leaflets on personal hygiene. One Company reported the Life Extension Institute Service of New York to its policyholders. The reports from the twenty-seven companies, members of this organization, showed that less than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) was spent on life extension and conservation work out of an income of thirteen million eight hundred and fifty-six thousand seven hundred and forty-two dollars (\$13,856,742). In short, the Life Conservation work being done by the National Negro Insurance Association is comparatively small. As reported, with the exception of the Companies mentioned above, is yet to be done.

Here lies a great field and opportunity for service. Our people must learn to think more and more in terms of life conservation. As our earning capacity increases, and as we become more and more prosperous we must learn to contribute more money on faculties which tend to improve the health and living conditions of our race. There is a great need for a wider extension of the work described herein among our people. Our people can profit more from conservation work than any other race. If intelligently worked, the savings on sick and death claims will soon be larger than the amount expended for life conservation.

Editor's Note: James A. Jackson, the recently appointed Special Agent, Assistant Business Specialist in charge of the section of Domestic Commerce Division, U. S. Dept. of Commerce says of the above:

"That report is now in the files of the U. S. Division of Domestic Commerce, Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce where it is being held in charge of the accepted authority for answering inquiries relative to colored Insurance companies until such a time as a survey of the whole field will have been completed by the Bureau."

"It is the first document of the sort issued by a colored Trade organization that has been so handled, entirely for the reason that it is the only such body as has ever made a reasonably successful effort to assemble the facts about the field of operations in which they are engaged."

NOT MANY OF YOUR PEOPLE COME HERE

A DISCUSSION OF SEGREGATION IN THE THEATRE

By RANDOLPH EDMONDS

The article entitled "Your Best People Come Here" in the December issue of THE MESSENGER, brings up a difficult but timely question; viz, the segregation of Negroes in American theatres. Especially those of us who have lived in the south have felt this keenly. We know the gallery, commonly called the "peanut gallery." We know the colored section marked off by imaginary, yet real, lines. And finally we are familiar with the expanding gallery to take care of the influx of colored patrons when the house brings a Negro show. These, of course, are accompanied by impolite ushers, and the sarcastic and insulting remarks by ribald whites.

In the main the author's analysis of the question was sound. It is undeniable that this nefarious custom is spreading into areas that have before been free. It is even invading the western section of the country; and if the present rate of increase keeps up the north will soon be south so far as "jim crowism" in the theatre is concerned. So a public discussion of the question is very important at this time if we wish to cut off the growing head of this segregation hydra in this country.

In discussing this problem, however, it seems to me that the author made some gross errors in his fundamental premise. The first was the total disregard of the other race in his discussion. He says, "It will be the purpose of this brief study to disregard completely those which may be said to base themselves in the racial prejudice of white people, or can be referred to its implications." And when he discusses the remedy for the evil he further makes the statement, "Here again there will be no mention of what white people may or should do to remove the difficulty." Now since segregation in theatres, as well as all other forms, of discrimination, is grounded in the white man's prejudice against the Negro, and not in the Negroes' prejudice against the white man, no adequate solution will be reached unless one takes in consideration what the Caucasian will, should, or must do. Any study of the question without regard to that is done in a perfunctory, or at best unscientific manner.

The second error of judgment is in his own words: "Colored people themselves accept the entire debasing practice with its plain inference of their inferiority, accept it uncomplainingly, even willingly, gladly paying for the dubious privilege in both hard earned coin and self respect." This, it seems to me, is a little too strong, a misstatement of fact. It is true that colored people—some of the "better class" if there are any—go to the jim crow theatre; but they do not go gladly, and willingly paying for this debasing practice. I have been myself many times with people, but I have yet to know of one who gladly and willingly went to a jim crow gallery. That was always the one fly in the ointment which kept the occasion far from ideal.

The truth of the matter is: the average

colored person who goes to the best type of show is in a dilemma. He knows very well that it is useless to boycott them as the author recognized. It is purely up to him to go to the theatre under the galling

Harlem, Mid-Afternoon Any Week Day

By HEBE JANNATH

Children
With faces like black orchids
Soft, sultry, sullen
Their smiles
Moonlit paths in a forest.

Children
Smooth brown
Little heads carved in oak
With polished ridges
Or modeled in carmel
With fluted flower lips.

Children
Honey-colored
With big lustrous eyes
And crisp little noses
And bright jet curls—
Little amber odalesques
Little gods and goddesses
In gold.

Children of smoked pearl
With slate-grey eyes
And straight brown hair
And thin-etched lips
Parted in wonder.

Children
Of a dozen blends
Moonstone tints
With twisted charcoal hair
And slim Greek heads in bronze.
Little Delilahs and Madonnas
Little Vishnus and Venuses
Little Pans and Apollos.

Children
Who will beard Broadway
Who will hearken, harrie and har-
angue Harlem
Some who will swing picks
Some who will wash dishes
And some who will wear sable
And others
Who still could walk naked
Beringed and proud
With spears in their hands
Over African meadows.

practices and get some good, if there is any in the show, or stay away and most assuredly do the other fellow no harm; for it is plainly evident that the theatres are not run on the economic support of the colored people. The person who does go, goes because he realizes that "the play is the thing." It is done not gladly nor willingly, however.

The whole question is deeper than just a superficial decision of to go, or not to go. It brings in the whole problem of segregation. Should a Negro walk to work or ride in a jim crow car? He usually rides. Should a Negro remain in ignorance or go to a jim crow school? He usually goes. Our country is dotted with Negro schools and universities. They realize that an education under adverse circumstances is better than no education at all. This shouldn't be taken as a meek surrender of principles, however. We have organizations fighting all the time for our economic and civic rights. In the meantime we are forced to take what we can get.

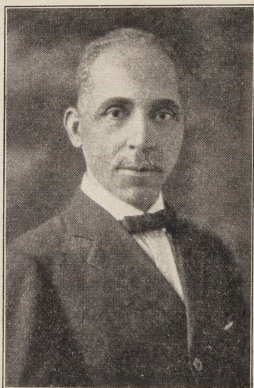
The question of prejudice, especially in business, is more one of dollars than color. Any business will, and must of necessity, cater to the people who pay for it. If there are several kinds of people represented, they will receive attention according to their influence and buying ability. I remember the time, not many years ago, either, when white people didn't come to Harlem in such large numbers. There was a public dance in the old Palace Casino one night. Two white fellows walked in the place and commenced dancing with some of the ladies of color. Immediately there was a young riot. The ladies and gentlemen stormed the manager's office, and threatened all kinds of wild happenings if the white intruders were not ejected. The manager ordered the music stopped, and with a great show of race patriotism, ordered the two men to go down town and dance with their white women and stop breaking up his business. I have seen this duplicated at the Renaissance and other places in a lesser degree.

But who would think of ordering white people out to a colored dance in Harlem today, unless it was a private or a club function? The white people come in larger numbers today and have acquired a financial interest in Harlem's social life, especially the night life. The same manager would perhaps throw a Negro out today if he protested, on the ground of breaking up his business. The same ladies who squawked so loudly that night about the presence of white men would be boasting today that New York is so cosmopolitan, or, perhaps, Bohemian.

These, of course, are colored examples. Well, the white people act, and would act the same way. So the debasing situation today is due not so much to the fact that "your best people come here" as stated by the author of the article, but rather "not many of your people come here." The fact that just a few people bring on the situation is because large numbers bring many dollars, and dollars to a large extent decide the degree of prejudice in a man's mind whether he be white or colored.

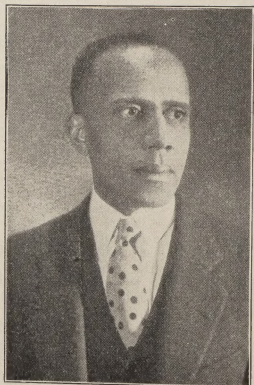
This brings us to a discussion of the remedy for such a situation, and I find myself again at variance with the author of the article. My first suggestion would be,

(Continued on page 69)



WALTER P. EVANS

The owner of Evans' White Front Department Store, Laurinburg, N. C., his business is known as the most outstanding one of its kind owned by a Negro in the United States. The combined salary paid his clerks amounts to more annually than the sum expended by the town to school nearly 600 Negro children. His business is largely patronized by the white people of Laurinburg. In 1926 and 1927 he supplied over 130 white and black farmers with food and materials on crop lien and chattel mortgage securities. The store was started in 1885. Mr. Evans was born in Wilmington, N. C., in 1863. He was clerk in the office of the County Register of Deeds and clerk in the Post Office in Wilmington in the days when the Negro was a factor in politics. In 1896 he was appointed Justice of Peace in Laurinburg, and in 1898 was appointed Postmaster, but was prevented from taking office by the activities of the Red Shirts.

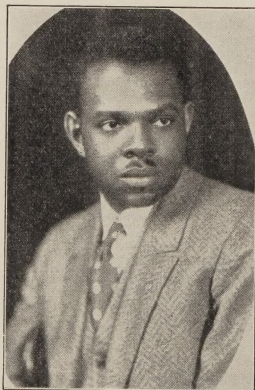


BYRON S. HOLDER

Born in Shelbyville, Tenn., in 1883, but raised in Watertown, South Dakota, and Minneapolis, Minn., Mr. Holder, with the assistance of his wife, has succeeded in building up a flourishing business from the preparation solely of chicken in all its forms. In his P. & S. Chicken Shack in Minneapolis, Minn., ten colored girls are employed eight hours a day, six days a week. The place seats 125 persons and 100 orders can be served in 30 minutes. The chickens used are milk fed from six to eight days and are purchased from three of the largest feeding stations in the North-west. Only one kind of potato, the Idaho Gem, is used. Mr. Holder has a large patronage from the most prominent citizens in the community and the excellence of his service is widely known. During the year 1927 he did a business in excess of \$50,000.

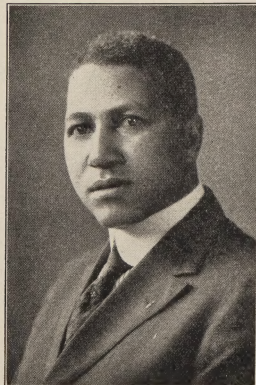


THE AFRAMEERICAN ACADEMY



FLOYD J. CALVIN

Washington, Ark., celebrated the birth of this young man 25 years ago; Hope, Ark., mourned his departure in 1920, when he left the Solid South for the marts of Gotham. Arriving in the City of High Rent, he attended school a year, working betimes for *The New York Age* and *The Messenger*. In 1923 he went to the Home Office of *The Pittsburgh Courier*, remaining there for six months, when he returned to Harlem as Eastern District Manager. Since June, 1926, he has been Special Feature Editor of *The Pittsburgh Courier*, and has contributed much to the development of that outstanding weekly newspaper. In 1927 he had the distinction of securing the first radio hour with a leading station (WGBS), New York, known as "The Pittsburgh Courier Hour." He has delivered over the air many educational talks on Negro achievements, including "The Negro Press" and the "Durham Conference."



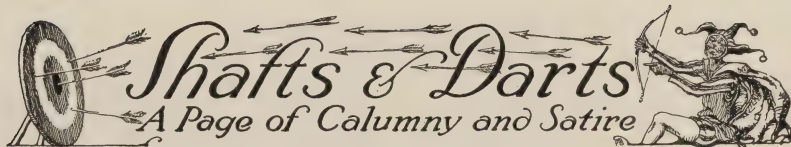
JAMES A. JACKSON

When J. A. (Billboard) Jackson recently passed with a mark of 82.10, the civil service examination for Special Agent-Assistant Business Specialist in charge of section of Domestic Commerce Division, U. S. Department of Commerce, he was merely living up to past performances and keeping abreast of the expectations of his host of friends. Born in Bellefonte, Pa., from a family that has been free since 1793, he has been waiter, newspaper reporter, policeman, minstrel man, bank clerk, railway policeman, press agent, director of bureaus for an insurance company, editor and theatrical writer. He has worked as feature writer and reporter on the *Detroit Today* (now the *Times*), the *N. Y. Globe*, and the *Chicago Daily Bulletin*, the *N. Y. Herald*, and *The Billboard*. He has been in sixteen foreign countries—excluding Mississippi, is Grand Lodge Elk, Imperial Officer in the Shriners, 33rd Degree Mason, Founder of The Deacons, and member of clubs and associations too numerous to mention. He isn't 50 yet—but it won't be long now!



WILLIAM N. JONES

A South Carolinian, a graduate of Benedict College, a former student at Tuskegee Institute and the University of Chicago, a one-time teacher at Haines Institute and Bishop College, Mr. Jones developed the first municipal playground when he became Director of Social Colored Survey in Memphis, Tenn. He guided the recreation department to the purchase of the \$85,000 central auditorium and recreation park. Six years ago he left this field to take up journalism, becoming a member of the staff of the *Afro-American*. He has risen from court reporter to managing editor. His column of comment is one of the best in the country, and certainly there is none that better reflects the attitude of the New Negro. He is also a lecturer on journalism at Howard University.



Shafts & Darts

A Page of Calumny and Satire

By GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

Negro Musical Education: Now that the Okeh Phonograph Company has issued Record No. 8531, containing "Blood-Thirsty Blues" and "Dope Head Blues," it may be assumed by some Aframericans that the bottom has been touched. Not at all. Even more "educational" records by "race" artists can be expected. Since these phonograph companies know their Negro public so well, we suppose that it will not be long before we shall be favored with "Raping Blues," "Grave-Robber Blues," "Abortion Blues," "Burglary Blues," "Highway Robbery Blues," "Chicken-Stealing Blues," "Porch-Climbing Blues," "Peeping Tom Blues," "Incest Blues," and similar gems of social uplift. Come on you phonograph company boys! Do your stuff! Remember, there is no limit when you are getting out phonograph records for Negro consumption.

Bigger and Better Dances: What this great Negro race needs is more dances. We don't dance nearly enough. It is true that we hold a dance every night in the big cities and at least twice a week in the smaller ones, but why not hold them in the morning before going to work and also at noon time? Just think of how much more money we could spend on dances if we just attended them twice as often? Why if we applied our minds to the problem, we could soon bankrupt all of our financial institutions and insurance companies by spending all of our money on dancing. The year is young yet, why not make a start? Nothing ventured, nothing won. Let's get busy right away and dance ourselves into the poof houses.

The Holebean Awards: It gives us great pleasure to announce to the breathless world the Holebean Awards for the year 1928. These awards are made possible annually by that eminent high priest of the Games of Chance, Mr. Jasper Holebean, a noted figure in Africana. The prizes are given each year to Negroes who have made outstanding contributions to the coarser arts and have thereby become distinguished. The Holebean Awards Foundation is under the direction of Prof. Dr. Gregory I. Gaines, S.A.P., Yale, 1898; BOOB, Harvard, 1902, Eminent Guzzler of the Tappa Kegga Bevo fraternity.

HAIR FRYING: 1st Prize, \$400, to Lucinda Koal, of Hog Maw, Miss., for her work in "doing" nine "heads" in less than two hours, without burning a scalp.

2nd Prize, \$200, to Ashie Epps, of Piano-box, Ala., who achieved wide attention because of her ability to conquer the most "stubborn" hair in a miraculously short time without breaking a single neck.

SUDS BUSTING: 1st Prize, \$400, to Jemima Jumpsteady, of Coolbreeze, Ky., who astounded the natives of her locality

by finishing a family washing in less than two hours.

2nd Prize, \$200 to Sissereta Leanshanks, of Chitterling Switch, Ga., who holds the record of her state for washing bedclothes without getting a weak back.

HOT STUFF VENDING: 1st Prize, \$400, to William Wallclimber, of New York City, for the remarkable achievement of scaling a 14-story loft building, filching a bale of dresses, and selling them to the elite of Harlem, all within 24 hours.

2nd Prize, \$200, to Clifford Ratty, of New York City, for cleaning up a fortune by selling cheap furs to the wise Negroes of Harlem by palming it off as expensive "Hot" stuff.

NUMBER-RUNNING: 1st Prize, \$400, to Napoleon Sluefoot of Brooklyn, N. Y., who performed the remarkable feat of collecting \$1,000 worth of numbers in less than an hour's time.

2nd Prize, \$200, to Abraham Hogear of Philadelphia, Pa., who, when arrested with a bale of number slips on his person, was clever enough to make the police believe that he was trying to disprove the Einstein Theory and that the slips contained his calculations.

GIN GUZZLING: Because of the close competition and the millions of entrants in contests all over the country, it was impossible to make any award in this field. Many Aframericans dropped dead in an effort to win the prize.

Crime and Punishment in America: Crime in these colorful United States, is, as you all know judged and punished according to the ancestry of the criminal, regardless of the ferocity of the crime. For instance:

SIX YEAR OLD GIRL MURDERED

Assaulted and Dismembered

Wealthy Young Man Confesses

(Special to the Evening Gloat)

Boozeburg, Pa., February 31, 1928:—Missing for several days, the dismembered body of little Lucinda Moron, the daughter of Ima and Yura Moron, prominent and respected citizens of Boozeburg, Pa., was found hidden in a swamp near the outskirts of this town. The countryside had been scoured for several days in search of the six-year-old little girl who was last seen alive Tuesday night when citizens of the town saw her walking down the street with Abe Normal, the young scion of a wealthy local family.

After prolonged consultation the Coroner's jury concluded that she had been assaulted criminally and the body dismembered and

hidden in order to hide the crime. Immediately a warrant was sworn out for Abe Normal, and he was arrested in Coal Scuttle, N. J., last night, from whence he was hurried to the county jail in Boozeburg. Feeling is running high and all precautions are being taken by the sheriff to protect his prisoner. (And so on for six columns).

CHILD SLAYER CONFESSES CRIME

Family Rushes to His Aid

Prominent Alienist Claims Insanity
(Special to the Morning Garbage)

Boozeburg, Pa., February 32, 1928:—Looking haggard and worn, Abe Normal, the confessed slayer of little Lucinda Moron, was brought before County Judge Bugger this morning where he pleaded not guilty to the crime, despite his confession of last night. His attorney, O. Fall Lyre, claims that the confession was extracted by brutal and illegal methods. This was denied by Watt A. Thugg, the prison warden, whose statement was substantiated by Klubb M. Hard and Thur D. Gree, the two other officers in whose presence the confession was made.

The family of the confessed slayer has engaged Dr. Whoffle Dust, the eminent alienist from the staff of the Sappy Hospital for the Insane. After examining the youthful murderer, Dr. Dust gave a statement to the press in which he stated that it was his unbiased opinion that Abe Normal is a raving maniac. The state has employed Dr. M. T. Brane, to prove that the criminal is sane.

Letters have been received from people in places as remote as Hullobaloo, Calif., claiming to have committed the crime. (A page of pictures on Page 10).

ABE NORMAL DECLARED INSANE

Committed to State Asylum for Life

Leaves Amid Cheering Crowds

Boozeburg, Pa., April 42, 1930:—The sun rose bright and clear today over the Booze County courthouse and disclosed a large assemblage of curious citizens waiting for a fleeting glimpse of Abe Normal, the young child murderer, who was yesterday committed for life to the State Insane Asylum after a sensational trial. Many had waited in the chilly spring air since midnight. Vendors of hot dogs, coffee, soda water and toy balloons reaped a harvest from the crowd. Newspaper reporters and photographers were on the job from four o'clock interviewing deputy sheriffs, scrubwomen, policemen, janitors, and others around the

(Continued on page 69)

EDITORIALS

THE race for President is on in good fashion. At this writing, ambitious candidates are gunning for the nomination of their respective parties. This will probably be the hardest and the bitterest campaign for president waged in America since the civil war, if Governor Alfred E. Smith of New York, becomes the standard bearer of the Democratic party.

The Presidential Race

Religious bigotry will be played up with unspeakable fierceness. Catholics will bait Protestants and Protestants will bait Catholics, for it is generally assumed that this is a Protestant country. Men and women, currently labelled intelligent, with the utmost seriousness and sincerity, speak blandly and innocently of the Pope running the United States in the event of the election of Al Smith as President. This is, perhaps the strongest card in the hands of the Republican politicians to play against the New York governor.

Among Republican aspirants, Herbert Hoover, Secretary of Commerce, is doubtless the most formidable. The count against him is, that he is Constitutionally ineligible because of two long residents in foreign countries. Those advocates of a strictly literal interpretation of the Constitution maintain that one must have lived fourteen years in the United States prior to his election for president. While this is presumably inconsequential from the point of view of intellectual, experiential and moral availability, it means a whole lot when politicians are maneuvering for place and power. They can adroitly magnify a mole hill into a mountain. Empty-headed wind jammers will rant and rave furiously about the country's going to the bow-wows if an American citizen is chosen for president who has spent a considerable part of his life under the influence of Perfidious Albion.

As between Smith and Hoover there is little to choose from the point of view of ability, executive and administrative experience in the handling of large government problems and in general public integrity. Both have a measure of liberalism. Both have their share of reactionism. Both will make good presidents so far as presidents go. Both have some independence. Either one is easily the superior in presidential availability, not of course from the politician's point of view, or any of the other contestants in the field. The educated classes of America seem to choose Hoover first, and Smith second.

Of the two, doubtless, Al Smith would create the greatest sensation. His life has a dramatic setting, coming, as it were, from the lower depths of the New York sidewalk life. Despite the historical political reputation of Tammany, he has not only maintained a pronounced political respectability, but won the enviable distinction of being one of the greatest authorities in state government and an advocate of progressive social legislation. Though not a schoolman, he has successfully grappled with many intricate problems of state finance and reorganization. As a controversialist he has met and bested the keenest minds in the Republican camp of New York State.

As for his capacity for National statesmanship, no serious student of modern politics can find anyone who could bring a finer fund of common sense to the handling of these larger problems than the idol of the plain folks of New York.

Herbert Hoover is a man of high formal educational attainments. His handling of the big food problems during the war and the flood situation in Mississippi, stamp him as one of the ablest administrators in public affairs in America or Europe. While not the fighter and controversialist that Al Smith is, his fine grasp of public questions carry with it an authority which challenges the admira-

tion of both Republicans and Democrats.

On the question of the Negro, neither has done anything which is sufficiently outstanding to cause him to be labelled as any special friend of the race. Nor has either done anything which would merit the name of an enemy. Negroes may expect no striking variation in presidential policies toward them under Al Smith or Hoover from that which has obtained with presidents generally. The Negro can only expect a larger measure of consideration from the hands of the president, whoever he may incidentally be, only when they possess organized political power, directed by honest and intelligent men. From the point of view of the Negro, it doesn't make very much difference whether the next president is a Republican or a Democrat, a Catholic or a Protestant, a Jew or a Gentile. All are his friends before elected, and all are indifferent to his interests after their election. This is not so because of race, or color, but because of the political ignorance and weakness, stupidity and corruption of Negro political leadership.

The only political security the Negroes can look to is their own power which will arise from definite hard-boiled organization. Their friends may help them but they cannot save them.

THE time has come for Negroes to secure representation in Congress. It is obviously a disgrace that one-tenth of the population of the great American Republic has not a single representative in either house of Congress. The Jews, Irish, Italians, Catholics, Klu Kluxers, Prohibitionists, Wets, Women and practically every other group in America which has a corporal's guard, can point to somebody in Congress which definitely and directly represents them. They can do that only because the representative is one of them.

Nothing can be raised in Congress against the Jews or Catholics, or Wets or Drys, or Women, which will not be challenged by a representative of that group. It is unreasonable to expect that a Jew will look out for the interest of Catholics, or a Catholic for Negroes. While Jews may not oppose Catholics in Congress, still they have many problems of their own that they cannot devote the proper time to study the problems of the Catholics in order to champion their cause successfully.

Every group in America which has special problems has shown the good sense to elect one of their group to work for the solution of their problems in Congress. No, it is not correct to say every group has done this, because the Negro has not. He alone stands out, as perhaps the largest, single racial or nationality group in the country which can point to no representative in the nation's greatest legislative body. It is true that there are white representatives from Negro districts, in New York, St. Louis and Chicago. But those white congressmen think of the Negro only to the extent that it is found to be good politics.

In all three of these centers, Negroes should select and elect their own representatives. Of course they will eventually. But that is not enough for intelligent people to set forth as a reason for their political recreancy now. Perhaps the most outstanding contestant for Congress among colored people is Chandler Owen of Chicago. He can and will win, if Negroes will vote for him and see to it that his votes are counted.

Not until Negroes can point to a Negro in Congress will the race get any considerable political dignity or win any definite measure of political respect. The assumption by the white and black public is that since there are no Negroes in Congress, they have no right to be there. But we want

more than a Negro in congress. We want a fearless, brilliant and honorable representative Negro sent there. A man who does not think white; but one who thinks right; one who is without the taint of a slave psychology, but who knows the mechanics and technique of modern social psychology; one who is not the typical politician, but who has a broad, sound fundamental understanding of national political problems in particular, and world problems in general; one who is not a wild erratic gesture-maker and kaleidoscopic sensation-monger, but a serious, dignified student and fighter. Owen fits this bill for Chicago, and the task is for Negroes to find someone who will measure up to the fight in New York and St. Louis. We hope this can be done. We want a Negro congressman who will not alone be interested in the Negro problem but in all the problems of America.

ONE of the most significant movements initiated in America in the last decade, is the Negro Labor Conference. It was conceived and projected by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. Its object is to awaken an interest among the Negro and white public in the problems of the Negro worker and American industry and in relation to organized labor; and also to mobilize sentiment behind the movement to organize the Pullman porter.

It is the first conference movement in America which has as its primary aim the study of industrial problems with a view to stimulating and developing interest in the organization of the Negro worker. The agenda was sufficiently comprehensive to embrace every phase of life of the Negro worker. The Negro worker and Organized labor came in for considerable discussion since it is one of the most controversial questions. In every conference a specialist on labor problems and the representative from the American Federation of Labor treated this subject. Many of the discussions surrounding this theme were heated but cordial, the one object being to probe as deeply into the matter as possible so as to reach some sound workable basis for the meeting of Negro and white workers together in a common labor movement for a common goal. The white speakers on this subject showed that they possessed a broad and liberal view point and that they recognized the obvious injustice which white labor had formerly practiced upon the Negro worker. They were not hesitant, however, in pointing out that the Negro worker's obligation was to come into the organized labor movement wherever accepted. They also indicated that the tendency among the international unions who had discriminated against Negro workers joining them, was to alter their policy in favor of the admission of their black brothers. All of them commended the Pullman porters for their brilliant pioneer work in the field of organized labor.

Despite the fact that the Conference was built around the idea of organized labor of the Negro worker, it also placed on its agenda the subject of the Negro worker and the employer. In most of the conferences, the Industrial secretary of the Urban League, because of his special knowledge, treated this subject. On account of the fact that the Industrial opportunities of Negroes are sharply limited, this subject evoked interesting questions and discussion. Many speakers offered the belief that some Negro workers were discriminated against in certain industries because of inefficiency. But this view point was pretty generally overcome by a formidable array of facts which tended to show that the Negro worker is not any more inefficient than the white worker is, and that the instances in which the Negro worker was inefficient, it was more due to the low wages paid than to any question of race or color.

An examination of the problems of Industrial workers today will show that health is basic and fundamental. In the large International Unions the question of health has

been found so paramount that worker's health bureaus are established to make health surveys for the formulation of Industrial health policies. With a view to bringing modern enlightened opinion on worker's health to the Negro, the Conference secured eminent white and colored doctors to deal with this subject. Not until sound preventive medical information is placed at the disposal of the average worker, white and black, will he be able to avoid the ravages of the destructive occupational diseases, as well as the blood infections.

Civil Liberty and the Negro worker was included for discussion, because of the operation of the injunction against the workers, the "Yellow Dog Contract" and the denial of the Negro the right to vote in the south. The Negro worker holds a unique position in the American Industrial world, in that he is the only wage earner who is denied the power of political action on account of race or color. Of course, in every state of the south, white workers are denied the right of suffrage also. But not on account of race or color. The fear of the spread of progressive and economic views among the white proletariat, is responsible for the industrial-political Bourbons manipulating the political machinery so adroitly as to exclude the broad masses of white workers. The south is still practically unaware of the existence of workmen's compensation laws, employers' liability acts, maternity legislation, child labor measures, factory laws for the protection of the workers, minimum wage laws, laws against usury practiced by loan sharks upon defenseless workers, laws for the protection of women workers, and general social legislation which ameliorates the working and social conditions of the industrial population.

Industrial democracy of the Negro worker was presented in order that the trends toward the establishment of a larger degree of workers' control in industry might be analyzed and appraised. Every effort made by the workers to secure the right to greater and greater expression of opinion on rules and working conditions and wages that affect the lives of workers, is a step in the direction of industrial democracy. The Company Union movement is a direct challenge to this principle. Its purpose is more thoroughly to enslave the worker in industry.

Realizing that the agencies of education and propaganda would naturally influence every effort of the Negro worker to achieve greater economic security and justice, the Conference brought to it a professional journalist to talk on the Negro worker and the press. Some of the most stubbornly fought battles on the industrial field have been materially influenced for good or ill by the attitude of the press. Very often the press practiced deliberate misrepresentation of the cause of organized labor. It was this attitude of the Metropolitan press which gave rise to the labor press, and labor press agencies, such as the Federated Press. On the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters it was interesting to note that the press has shown, especially during the last year, a disposition to give news about the movement to organize the porters a fair "break." In practically every paper in the country, something has been written about the porter's fight for a living wage and the abolition of tips. The press has been a salient factor in getting the porters' cause a hearing. The Negro press too, has shown a most remarkable tendency, during the last year, to concern itself with the porters' movement in particular, and the Negro worker in general, if not in its editorial columns, certainly in its news columns.

Nor can the church be ignored when confronted with the problems of mobilizing public opinion in favor of the solution of the great social question. Therefore, the Conference sought to have the church represented in giving its view point on the relation of the church to the worker. When it is remembered that the National Catholic Welfare Council, the Central American Association of Rabbis, and the Federal Councils of Churches of Christ, have conjointly

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Business & Industry



Compiled by GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

In Louisville, Ky., a group of Negroes have opened an ice factory in the West End, to supply the more than thirty Negro retail dealer. *Yes, ice made by Negroes is just as cold as the other kind.*

Now that the Delta Penny Savings Bank of Indianola, Miss., has failed prominent Negro business men of the community are planning to organize another bank. *These people are gluttons for punishment.*

In Baltimore, Md., the Afro-American reports that employment bureaus are packed with applicants crying for employment. *The panic is on, it seems.*

The Standard News and The Royal Messenger, official organ of the Royal Circle of Friends of the World, both of St. Louis, Mo., have effected a merger. *Edgar Brown, owner of the former, doubtless heaved a sigh of relief.*

In Picaune, Miss., Negroes recently purchased \$22,000 worth of real estate from a local corporation. *That was more than a mere picaune.*

Those who suffer from "bad" hair and color will doubtless hail with delight the news that a new cosmetic company has arrived on the scene, appropriately enough in Pittsburgh, the Smoky City. It is known as the Pyramid Products Company. Mr. William P. Bayles, formerly head of the Strait-Tex Chemical Company, also of Pittsburgh, is President and Manager of the new concern. *If this keeps up the Negro will soon have no kinks in his program.*

Headed by F. A. Dilworth, the Savannah Business League has again started functioning after some years of slumber. *It should be more than a social success.*

The Colored Tailors and Cleaners Association has been organized in Nashville, Tenn. The purpose of the organization is to promote closer cooperation between individuals in the business. *Evidently they stand for cleaner business.*

At the Bronx (N. Y. City) Bakery of the General Baking Company, makers of Bond Bread, James Winn, a Harlem Negro, has charge of all flour and other supplies used in making the bread. Mr. Winn receives the raw material for the bread, keeps the record and issues the materials to the bakers. This company employs many Negroes in their 43 factories. *This disproves the statement that a man cannot live by bread alone.*

In Louisville, Ky., the Commercial Broom Works is continuing to do a successful business. It is furnishing brooms for the Atlantic and Pacific Tea Stores and for many of the largest hotels. This company also operates a Gents' and Ladies' Furnishing Store near the center of the city. *As much as Negroes use brooms, such a business ought to be successful in almost any community.*

When Caucasians and Japanese failed to deliver the goods as chauffeurs, The North Coast Bus and Transportation Company of

Seattle, Wash., decided to give Negro chauffeurs a chance to make good. They did. So for eighteen months this company has employed ten Negro chauffeurs to drive their limited buses between Seattle and San Francisco. Recently the company sent their ten Negro drivers to Chicago to get ten new buses and pilot them back to Seattle. The new buses will also be driven by Negro chauffeurs in the limited service. The run between the two cities is 940 miles.

The Southern Aid Society of Virginia reports a cash balance of \$424,083 for the year ending 1927, and a capital and surplus of \$589,557.23.

The Lexington Colored Fair Association recently held its annual meeting, reported all bills paid and elected new officers. The association has big plans for 1928.

Another branch of the Negro Business League has been organized, this time at Edmondson, Ark. A special effort will be made to aid farmers in planning and marketing crops. The town has a Negro mayor and council, and is a thriving community.

The Prudential Bank of Washington, D. C., reports for 1927 a gain in deposits amounting to \$65,428.64. *Evidently we can bank on this institution.*

According to one of our esteemed contemporaries, the real estate brokers and salesmen of Harlem have organized The Harlem Real Estate Brokers' Association. *Look out, tenants!*

A new method of raising sunken submarines has been invented by Solomon Harper and George W. Lyttle, two Negro residents of Harlem. Hereafter, doubtless, to paraphrase the Salvation Army slogan: *"A submarine may be down but it's never out."*

Mr. James Harrison Webb of 211 N. 59th Street, Philadelphia, Pa., has received a "Certificate of Proficiency" in candy making. He studied under a specialist for seven years.

The Mammoth Building and Loan Association of Louisville, Ky., recently declared a 7 per cent dividend. This association has paid dividends regularly twice a year since its organization.

A "Negro in Industry" Week was recently held in St. Louis, Mo., under the direction of T. Arnold Hill, of the Urban League. The purpose was to create greater interest in the opening up of new industrial opportunities for Negroes. *Well, they certainly need them.*

Mr. Ira DeA. Reid, Industrial Secretary of the N. Y. Urban League recently spoke over Station WEVD, New York City, on "The Decline of the Negro Strike-breaker."

Mr. William H. Smith, Jr., 492 Jackson Avenue, Newark, N. J., claims to operate the only insurance specialist office owned by Negroes in the East.

Miss Leola Barton of Columbia, Tenn., has been engaged by the Soft Wheat Millers' Association as home economics field

representative. In this capacity she will carry out an education program of the highest order in Virginia, North and South Carolina, Georgia and Louisiana. She is a graduate of Tennessee State College.

Miss Cleota Saunders has been appointed saleslady in the Julius Orkin Ladies' Ready-to-Wear Store, 1512 Douglas Street, Omaha, Neb.

Miss Genevieve H. McKinney, who recently passed a civil service examination for supervising nurse in the New York City Health Department at the top of a field of 267 competitors, was recently appointed to the position. It is the first time a Negro woman has held such a position in New York City.

The Norfolk Journal and Guide, up-and-coming Virginia newspaper, recently installed a new Model 26, Mergenthaler Linotype, which is positively the last word in typesetting machines.

Roy Lancaster,
2311 Seventh Avenue,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Friend:

You will notice by the heading of this letter that my address has been changed from 423 Y. M. C. A., Detroit, to Tech College, Lubbock, Texas.

Although I am not on the road as much as I formerly was, I have had several opportunities lately for talking through things with a number of porters. Recently I boarded a train at Amarillo, Texas, for Chicago over the Santa Fe. The porter of our car was the first one whom I have met not afraid to show his card. He not only showed his 1928 card but 27, 26, and others as well. I found out as we neared Chicago that his trip had not been very profitable; so I informed the people in the car that he needed substantial tips. Although most of the travelers were students going to a student convention, they dug down and joyfully gave what they could. If I had never had the opportunity to use the card before, that was sufficient justification for my carrying one. I think that you should know further that when I board one of these trains, I always go through an interview of the porters with reference to the Brotherhood. Not all of my experiences are of the happiest nature, but most of them soon gain confidence in me and tell me their story with reference to the Pullman Company. This you know better than I do. I think that the boys in this section of the country are having a very difficult time, but now and then I run into one who has seen the thing and is quietly spreading the message.

I feel highly honored to carry the card which you have sent. Your accompanying letter is inspiring and encouraging to me. I want to assure you that the receipt of your letter and the card was one of the happy experiences of the holiday season to me. I hope and pray that the Brotherhood wins the victory at a price not too high for you to pay. I wish that I could be of more service to you.

I remain,
Your sincere friend,
(Signed) ROY McCULLOUGH.
Lubbock, Texas, January 26, 1928.

"BEST" EDITORIAL FOR JANUARY

Selected from the American Negro Press

By EUGENE GORDON

Noted Journalist on Staff of Boston Post

Some months ago the Baltimore *Afro-American* carried an excellent editorial entitled "Senator Bingham Writes." I do not, at the moment, recall the month; but, however, I remember that that editorial was

selected as the best of that month. In the *Afro-American* of January 28th there is an editorial entitled "Congressional Bookkeeping," which is just as unique as the one above referred to, and which goes much

further, all things considered, toward becoming a complete editorial. In my opinion, "Congressional Bookkeeping" is the best editorial printed in the Negro press during the month of January. It follows:

Congressional Bookkeeping

DEBIT:

Senator Thomas Heflin's (Democrat Ala.) Attack Upon the Catholic Church

The man from whom Hearst got the forged papers is a Roman Catholic. He testified that he obtained them from Roman Catholic clerks in the Mexican Government and that he told them he wanted the papers for Bishop Diaz, a Roman Catholic bishop of Mexico. Hearst's wife is a Roman Catholic.

Senator Cole Blease (Democrat, S. C.) Offers to Fight.

Two remarks have been made upon this floor which I can not let go without having something to say about them. One was by the Senator from Montana (Mr. Walsh), that Senators who came here from the South after the Civil War were guilty of treason. The other was by the Senator from Pennsylvania (Mr. Reed) in reference to the Negro vote of the South.

I shall at another time answer my friend from Pennsylvania in reference to the Negro question in South Carolina, and the Senator from Montana, who has been so kind as to say that my father—his three brothers, and that my mother's four brothers, who fought in the Confederate Army, were guilty of treason. I shall answer that in a way that will be thoroughly and distinctly understood, and what I say I will be responsible for in the Senate, to the Senate. Outside of the Senate, at any time, in any way, and at any place that it suits any man who does not like it.

Senator Walter F. George (Dem. Ga.) "Thinks" Colored Folk in Dixie May Vote.

In my State and in every Southern State so far as I know the members of the Negro race may qualify and may vote. Approximately 3,000 of them in the last election for President in one city in my State did qualify and voted for the present Chief Executive of the United States.

In the order named, the following editorials are selected as next best: (1) "Take Stock Everywhere," Chicago *Whip*, January 14th; (2) "Prohibition and Lynching," Kentucky *Reporter*, January 28th; (3) "The Supreme Court Flouted," Pittsburgh *Courier*, January 4th; (4) "A Civilized

Trial," Louisville *Leader*, January 14th; (5) "Penalty By Commissions Instead of Juries," Norfolk *Journal and Guide*, January 14th; (6) "The South Rules," Washington *Eagles*, January 27th; (7) "Propaganda," *Afro-American*, January 21st; (8) "White Crime," Chicago *Defender*, January

21st; (9) "Heads Up!" Pittsburgh *Courier*, January 21st; (10) "Teaching and Testing," Washington *Tribune*, January 27th; (11) "No Need to Worry," New York *Amsterdam News*, January 18th; (12) "If You Are Not White," New York *News*, January 28th.

CREDIT:

Senator Josephus Robinson (Dem. Ark.) Says Senator Heflin Is a Fool.

"Senator Heflin says that if I say here or in Arkansas or in Alabama that I am tired of hearing him abuse and denounce the Catholic Church, and the agencies of the Catholic Church, they will tar and feather me. That is illustrative, my friends, of how a good man can go wrong, and how far wrong he can go, and what a fool he can make of himself after he has gone wrong."

Senator David A. Reed (Rep. Penn.) Asks About Excluding Dixie Senators Fraudulently Elected.

"Does the Senator (Reed, Dem. Mo.) consider it to be corrupt and improper to suppress the vote of the entire Negro population in each of the Southern States?"

"I want to know whether, in the next Congress, the Senator, if he is here—and I hope he will be—will join with us in applying this principle to men nominated in primaries from which all colored voters are excluded?"

Senator C. C. Dill (Rep., Wash.) Calls Intervention in Nicaragua Foul Crime.

"When the Government of Nicaragua or any other country is in such a condition that the lives of our nationals are not safe it is the duty of this Government to use whatever force is necessary to get those people out of that country; and to that extent I have no criticism of what has been done in Nicaragua. What I am criticizing here is not the use of our forces to get Americans out, but it is the keeping of these armed forces there and sending more of them there, not merely to protect the lives of people who cannot get out, but to put more lives there to be destroyed if necessary, merely for the purpose of protecting the investments of Americans there."

"We will not do it to a big country because it would mean war. In my judgment this is one of the blackest, foulest crimes that has ever been committed."

NEGRO EDITORIALS RATED

WE ANNOUNCE STANDING OF NEGRO PRESS IN 1927

After twelve months of appraising the weekly editorials appearing in the American Negro Press. THE MESSENGER announces the standing of the various newspapers. The standard adopted for testing the editorials was briefly as follows:

1. Is the source of the editorial clearly indicated?
2. Is the subject so presented that the

editorial will appeal to those for whom written?

3. What does the editorial set out to do:

- (1) Explain? (2) Convince? (3) Entertain? Does it succeed?

4. Is the editorial structurally correct?

- a. Does it grip attention with the first sentence?

- b. Does it bear evidence of a definitely ordered plan?

- c. Is the length of the editorial proportionate to its importance?

5. Has the editorial writer a style suited to this particular editorial and to his readers?

6. Is the writer's style suited to editorial writing?

(Continued on page 70)

THE BROTHERHOOD SLEEPING CAR PORTERS ACTIVITIES OF THE MONTH

CHICAGO DIVISION

224 E. Pershing Road
M. P. Webster, Organizer
George W. Clark, Secretary-Treasurer

A renewed spirit seems to have taken hold of the Chicago Division after the first of the year. The dues income is far above normal and the meetings are unusually well attended.

Another "Yellow Dog" petition was started in circulation by "Letter Writin' Tom" of the Chicago Western District. It resolved to be "loyal" and the rest of the pigeon blank and contained a subtle threat, "If you did not sign, you would lose your 'monopoly'." "Letter Writin' Tom" is one of the brilliant pigeons who is desperately opposed to the Brotherhood. However, the price of pigeons in Chicago is extremely low.

A number of Union men have been discharged here on the following charges: "You know." "Why don't you wake up?" and "Disloyalty."

On January 11th, the members of the Citizens' Committee that sent out the call for the Chicago Negro Labor Conference were entertained by the Division Organizer at the Vincennes Hotel at an informal dinner. Arrangements were completed for the Conference and the persons selected to make up the permanent committee. The following guests attended: Dr. Charles Wesley Burton, Mrs. Irene McCoy Gaines, Mrs. Alice Martin, Mr. David W. Johnson, Mr. Chandler Owen and Atty. C. Francis Stradford.

On January 12th, all of the Brotherhood Organizers met in Conference at the Vincennes Hotel and went over the affairs of the Brotherhood for the past two years and surveyed, both the past and future, program of the organization. A Committee on policy was appointed by the General Organizer.

Among those with us at this time, besides the General Organizer were: Frank O'Neal, Newark; E. J. Bradley, of St. Louis, Missouri; and Roy Lancaster, the General Secretary-Treasurer. All of the organizers left with a new spirit and more determined to put the Brotherhood over big.

The Ladies Auxiliary, under the leadership of its new and energetic president, is making some rapid strides. The membership is increasing and the general interest is being stimulated. Meetings are held the second and fourth Thursday in each month.

The membership in the Chicago Division seems to increase, although three-fourths of the Pullman porters operating out of this territory are already members of the organization and are still keeping up the regular rate of increase to one member per day.

In one of the later editions of the Pullman News, for the first time we note an under cover reference to the efforts of the Brotherhood. Of course, it is referred to as an "outside organization" and comments on the fact that the Employees Plan of Representation, in competition with this so-called "outside action," prevailed to such an extent in their last election that over 90 per cent of the men voted "No." The News, however, failed to note the "methods" used. They should have had a 101 per cent vote according to the "methods."

On Sunday afternoon, January 8th, through the influence of Mr. David W. Johnson, the local organizer, M. P. Webster was invited to address the local Post Officers' Club. There were about 250 men present at the meeting, with about seven white Negroes.

The Brotherhood's program and fight for a living wage and improved working conditions was very well received by the members of this organization. A large number of them were unusually well informed on the Brotherhood's program.

Brotherhood Week in Chicago

Brotherhood Week in Chicago has aroused the highest enthusiasm among Pullman porters. It started off January 23, with a labor conference which was an unusual success. The conference was a wide interest in the work of this organization by the people in Chicago. A more detailed statement will be found in another column of this issue.

Tuesday night, January 24th, a mass meeting was held at St. Mark's Church. The Chicago membership deeply regretted the inability of the General Organizer to get here due to the sudden death of his brother. However, the young and energetic president of the Ladies' Auxiliary carried on the meeting with a very limited program until relieved by the Division Organizer. She had at every instance shown a willing spirit. The meeting, however, was well attended by members and friends. The Rev. J. H. Kelly of St. Mark's Church, donated the use of the church to the Brotherhood.

The Membership Meeting, Wednesday night, January 25th, filled every nook and corner of the headquarters.

On Thursday evening, January 26th, at 6:45 P. M., A. Philip Randolph, General Organizer, B. S. C. F., broadcast a talk on the Brotherhood, over WCFL,

The Voice of Labor, owned and operated by the Chicago Federation of Labor. Before Randolph could get out of the studio a large number of telephone calls were received by him from people who had heard his address all over Chicago, indicating a strong favorable sentiment toward the Brotherhood's fight.

The Chicago Division's Big Dance

The Brotherhood's dance given at the Alvin Danst on Thursday night the 26th, was by far the best ever given in this division. The hall was packed to capacity. People still continued to come in droves until a late hour. It was a well arranged and well behaved crowd. The music by Madame Higbrow's Union orchestra was the best. Everybody had a good time. The remarks of Brother Randolph and the Local Organizer were unusually enthusiastically well received. Everybody left the dance in the wee small hours of the morning with a renewed Brotherhood spirit. The few stool pigeons that slipped in were pleased over the Brotherhood's first attempt.

Friday night, the 27th, Brother Randolph, the General Organizer, Secretary-Treasurer, and Mrs. George W. Clark, Division Organizer, and Mrs. M. P. Webster, were lavishly entertained at a very sumptuous dinner given in honor of the General Organizer and the Local office force by several of Chicago's staunch members. Needless to say, everybody enjoyed themselves. Chicago is becoming famous for its delicious hot rolls.

Saturday night, the 28th, was witnessed another big membership demonstration at headquarters.

On Sunday, January 29th, the Brotherhood was the guest of the Lincoln Community Men's Club at the Lincoln Memorial Congregational Church, 65th Street at Champlain Avenue. The Local Organizer, Webster, was the speaker. The event was a success. A. Philip Randolph was present and made a few remarks. The President of the Ladies' Auxiliary and Madame Adams participated in the program for the Colored Women's Economic Council.

The program was arranged through the courtesy of Mr. David W. Johnson, who is President of the Lincoln Community Men's Club and a staunch friend and supporter of the Brotherhood. The church was packed beyond capacity. A number of the people had to stand up.

At the end of Brotherhood Week in Chicago a membership drive to get in the delinquents will be started.

Chicago men are determined that they are paying dues and attending meetings and co-operating in every way with the Brotherhood.

The Chicago membership urges all Pullman porters who are interested in the welfare of themselves, and their families and their posterity to pay dues, attend meetings and give the Brotherhood all of your support.

SALT LAKE CITY DISTRICT

W. F. Burgess, Organizer

The Salt Lake City District is doing nicely this winter. The men are kept busy with extra work and everything is fine. Everyone is looking forward to a bright future. The men are still joining the union and are keeping the faith. They feel like the time will not be long before victory is certain.

WASHINGTON DISTRICT

Peter A. Anthony, Organizer

652 "L" Street, Northeast

We had a wonderful mass meeting on January 8th at the John W. Ward Church which has aroused the interest of Washington. A wonderful address was given by A. Philip Randolph, the chief speaker, followed by Hon. Royal S. Copeland, United States Senator, who agreed with Mr. Randolph's statement concerning the "New Negro" and the "New White Man." He stated that black men are superior to black men, white men superior to white men; black men superior to black men and black men superior to white men, so by this you can see on equal scales. If one feels that he is inferior to a white man, it is natural you will be inferior; if you feel superior to a white man, you will be superior to white men. Henceforth, you are no more than you are.

We had a great labor conference at the Y. M. C. A., 12th Street Branch, sponsored by A. Philip Randolph on Thursday night, January 23rd. It was a very wonderful speech. Mr. Whitfield McKinley, a prominent city leader, joined in with the fight against the Brotherhood, so by this you can see the effect of the Brotherhood.

The following were present: Mr. Whitfield McKinley, A. Philip Randolph, General Organizer, Mary Church Terrell, W. H. DesVerey, Assistant General Organizer, Mrs. L. DesVerey, Secretary-Treasurer, and Peter A. Anthony, Washington Local Organizer, called on President Coolidge at which time

Mr. Randolph was the spokesman. He put the Brotherhood cast from its birth to the present date before the President, and he is in favor of porters getting a living wage and better working conditions. So if the President of the United States is in favor, why doesn't every colored man and woman join in for the betterment of their welfare as a race in general.

You will never get anywhere by being divided, as the saying "United we stand, divided we fall." My advice to all is to fall in line and fight for economic freedom which is due you and your race as well as the white one.

Advice to stool pigeons. You had better get on the band wagon and let us all take a ride, if you don't you will be left alone. If we cut loose from you, I am sure the company doesn't want you afterwards and we are going on with our hand as did Moses when he left his enemies.

BOSTON DISTRICT

S. M. Taylor, Organizer

922 Tremont Street

Boston was visited by Mr. A. Philip Randolph and his associate on January 3rd, 1928. He spoke to a vast audience at the Ebenezer Church and received wonderful applause.

On Wednesday afternoon, January 4th, he spoke to a large audience at the Boston Public Library. His speech was very interesting and loudly applauded. The audience was interested enough to pass a resolution favoring the porters' struggle.

On Thursday afternoon, January 5th, he spoke at the Church of the Holy Trinity. His subject was "New Year Needs of our Afro-American Neighbors" and he also spoke of the Brotherhood. There was much interest in everything he said. His address was well taken. He then left for New York on the midnight train. His many friends desire him to come again. The Boston men were very much excited over his coming to Boston which gave them more spirit and fortitude.

JACKSONVILLE DISTRICT

J. W. Darby, Organizer

2029 Davis Street

This Division, after a great mixup among the men, is gradually getting over the mixup. The men are making some wonderful promises about their future intentions. Some of my men have already paid all of their dues for 1928. Many others plan to follow. It is true that conditions are very bad here. The boys are having it very tough. No trains on this season as in all the past seasons. Near one hundred men are on the extra list, just as they were in the summer. A large number of old men were pulled off the good runs and younger men substituted. The older men were given the poorest lines out of this district. All of this was probably done to frighten the men; to stop them from paying their dues. But the real men are steadfast and unmoved. The weak men are falling in line. I hope to have the district back to the old standing and past all records in the near future if the men mean what they tell me. I only need one pair of legs and feet, I could cover more ground, for misdeed that boy I have here now are all gone; I wish worn out to nubs, trying to get the men to tell them to be men.

T. A. Jones will not be successful in accomplishing his aims as he tells Mr. Cooper he would do if he got the job back. He has as much chance to break up the union here as to drink St. John's River dry.

SAINT PAUL DISTRICT

Paul Caldwell, Organizer

362 N. Dale Street

Nothing shows more the significance of the desire of the Negro to better his economic condition than the stir among them in this locality toward learning methods to put into effect the plan of co-operation effort outlined to three large and representative audiences of the Negro community. Several letters were received from the Rev. J. H. Schuyler in the Twin Cities on January 15th and 16th, in which he requested literature giving definite information on functional procedure. Two or three groups were organized to study conditions locally and plan for the beginning of activities which are expected to develop into action.

The members of the Brotherhood who heard him are making study of the plan. It is expected that soon as sufficient technical knowledge of the plan has been obtained.

Our series of Saturday night parties are developing into real affairs and it is a disappointment to a man to discover he is to be out on a Saturday. The public,

too, are taking advantage of the opportunity to attend these parties at local headquarters, and participate in the fun.

Much interest is exhibited in the hearing before the I. C. C. at this writing, and the headquarters is buzzing with hushed discussion of probable results. We are constantly being called to appear before other audiences to explain our position and aspirations. We find many opportunities to make publicity for the purpose of enlisting public opinion in our favor. We find it but a small condition to gain favor in opinion.

We are ashamed to admit our failure to get a steady patronage in our color and we find that we have a large demand one month and a small one the next. Thus making it impossible to deal with the matter.

Even *THE MESSENGER*, which every porter should buy, is in this class. There is not a porter in this district who is not expected to contribute to the quota, and if you have not done so, or heard about it, please consult either the captain of your district or the local secretary.

COLORED WOMEN'S ECONOMIC COUNCIL OF LOS ANGELES

By Mattie Mae Stafford

Bravely, we bade farewell to the old

And entered the trend of the new;

Never to falter, faint or fail,

Upward and onward we pushed and true.

Though at times the path be dim,

Hatred and malice pierce the soul,

We stand with the shield of fear,

Facing the new, "warriors bold."

Peace on earth, good will toward men,

Should be a beacon light,

A welcome warmth to every heart,

Piercing the gloom like a ray in the night.

Shall we revive the "Golden Rule,"

That long since has grown cold,

And let the cup of bitterness

Be relished of the old?

Mr. George S. Grant, Secretary-Treasurer, and Mrs. Lulu Slaughter, President of the Council, are working very hard to help bring success to this noble cause. Grant has a splendid system to advertise the mid-winter dance given by the Brotherhood and Council. He has divided the city into sections and two women are assigned to each section to distribute plans and bills. Our President was successful in bringing Dr. M. J. Marmillon, a prominent race physician, to us to lecture on "Negro Health." We were grateful for this timely lecture.

OMAHA DISTRICT

Bennie Smith, Organizer

224 North Avenue

Omaha, Nebraska

All moves forward in the Omaha District. H. J. Pinkett, veteran attorney, will serve as legal adviser for the Omaha Local. A group of business and professional men of Omaha are living up to back the Brotherhood morally and financially.

About 70 per cent of the men have their 1928 cards, by February 15th all will be in possession of their 1928 cards with the possible exception of those who are trying to carry a bucket on each shoulder. Their many excuses they have been offering lately will no longer be accepted and their names will be furnished to the entire membership after February 15th. It is that class that is seeking all the information and hollering the loudest for a change in conditions; hoping and praying for results and doing the least for the cause that bring it about.

Read *THE MESSENGER*.

SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT

Office, 519 Wood St., Oakland, Calif.

Dad Moore, Organizer

C. L. Dellums, Local Field Agent

The week beginning January 23rd was known as Brotherhood Week. Meetings were held daily. The attendance was unusually large. The speakers of great importance and special interest were discussed. Many of the speakers were vociferously applauded. Enthusiasm ran high. Many of the members who have been somewhat dilatory in the payment of dues and assessments during the past year are determined to be paying promptly, but also paying their dues several months in advance. The district has seemingly taken new life; and the men are determined to be putting the Brotherhood's program over.

Notwithstanding the scarcity of work, many of the Brotherhood men who have been unjustly discharged from the Pullman service, are finding other employment.

The men are anxiously awaiting the "returns" from the Interstate Commerce Commission. They are glad to note, however, that the returns look favorable. Mr. Morris Moore, better known as "Dad" Moore, has recovered from his recent illness and is back on the firing line. "Dad" wants the men to know that he never intends to hold the white flag of truce.

Although the clouds of the steel pigeons are just about over, one or two may still be seen flying around. The porters of the district were greatly grieved to

In Memoriam

In fond memory of my husband

Vance K. Josey

who died one year ago,

February 8, 1927

The trail we took together, beloved is dear to me.

Though now I tread the trail alone, you'll always be with me.

ROBERTA B. JOSEY.

hear of the death of Mr. Randolph's brother. Messages of condolence were sent to the bereaved.

During the absence of Mr. D. J. Jones, Secretary-Treasurer, who is somewhat indisposed, Mr. C. L. Dellums is carrying on the work in a creditable manner.

On January 15, many "slackers" resolved to be "lifters" instead of "leaners." Don't forget your resolutions, and don't fail to "carry them out."

Buy your Brotherhood cards from the district office. One of the young stool pigeons has been fired. Seems like he was getting too close to Snoddy and the other pigeons got jealous and stood on him. War seems to be on between the pigeons. We knew it would end like that. Such is the way of rats.

LOS ANGELES DISTRICT

George S. Grant, Organizer

1315 E. 12th Street

Los Angeles, Calif., Jan. 28.—The Mid-Winter Ball, given at 15th and Main streets, last Thursday evening by the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and the Women's Economic Council, was one of the most successful events of this season. The entire program was carried out according to schedule, without a single hitch. The big punch of the whole affair was the music. This was supplied by the "Pullman Porters' Band," and was exceptionally good. This being the first public appearance of this organization of eight, signaling hot harmony-king; it took most of their friends by surprise. The Pullman Porters' Band is an indubitable creditable organization, and will prove a "big drawing card" for future fund-raising.

The crowd gathered early, and was efficiently handled by well drilled committees. Every member and friend of the "Brotherhood" and the "Women's Economic Council" who could arrange to attend were present, and all who attended are anxiously looking forward to an announcement of the "Brotherhood's" next frolic.

NEW ORLEANS DISTRICT

Mrs. Oneida Brown, Organizer

303 Pythian Temple

We are patiently looking forward to the first report concerning the argument between the Pullman Company and the Brotherhood which took place in Washington, D. C., on the 21st. We are glad to say that we are writing up new members every day and that our reports to Headquarters are gradually showing a financial increase. The men are loyal and bring such inspiring reports to the office, very often instead of my having to encourage them they encourage me by their implicit faith in Mr. Randolph, their confidence in the success of the movement, their firm determination to support the cause, and their utter disrespect and contempt for those who are working for the wagon is safely over the hill rather than helping to pull it uphill.

THE MESSENGER is becoming a very popular magazine in New Orleans and is very much in demand. We handle *THE MESSENGER*.

ST. LOUIS DIVISION

E. J. Bradley, Organizer

Room 208, Peoples Bldg.

The members of this district join Mr. Randolph in mourning for his deceased brother. The Organizer and members extend our heartfelt sympathy to brother Randolph's bereavement.

A few new members are being taken in every week, which should indicate that the Brotherhood is gaining rapidly on the heels of the management for the entire force of Pullman porters and maids employed by them.

The Company is weakening. Dictator Burr has for some unknown reason seen cause to desert from his position. He is now working for the Pullman Company and practices. His men are aware that he is a deceiver, and if he told the men that the Pullman Company had lost the fight, many of them would not believe him, because they would think that he was still trying to fool them.

The Brotherhood representatives will convey that fact to the men themselves, men whom the porters and

maids have learned to place confidence in, leadership that has never deceived, or misled them. The mere fact that the jurisdictional fight case was held January 21st is proof that the Pullman Company cannot cause everything nor everybody all the time. The decision is expected from the Commission in a very few days, a favorable decision which seems inevitable, will mean bitter defeat throughout the remainder of the battle. The Pullman Company, under the advent the Pullman Company is not aware of the fact, I wish to announce that the Brotherhood not only intends, but is preparing to wage a warfare against the Pullman Company for a decent living wage, the working conditions, and the rights of the employees, under the Adamson Law, manhood rights, and the peace committees of our own choosing, to a decisive end. The Pullman Company will gladly, or perhaps, appreciate this hypocritical injection of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and their mushroom cells, called brains, by Dr. A. PHILIP RANDOLPH, who realize that we are cooperative and instructive, instead of destructive.

The Citizens Aid Committee, Prof. Ulysses S. Donaldson, Chairman; Miss Allie Merchant, Secretary; Miss Ruth Harris, Chairman of Arrangement Committee, are sponsoring a huge Negro Labor Conference, February 5th, 6th, and 7th, with a dance on the 8th, to hold the Brotherhood. The St. Louis Division of the Brotherhood is doing everything in their power to make this affair all that the Citizens Committee have hoped it to be.

The Organizer's attention was called to a case a few days ago where a P. B. A. of A. number had been off from duty sick nearly three weeks, or about eighteen days. He had been paid for his absence, but sick claim allowed through this St. Louis office. "Boss" Burr seemed to think this brother was paying from \$26 to \$30 a year. The P. B. A. of A. number help pay the Grand Chairman, or some other "Grand Dragon's" salary, and for such purposes as stated in By-laws and Constitution of said Organization. The P. B. A. of A. is this good news to other members of the P. B. A. of A. number, and finally granted a huge sum of four dollars and twenty (\$4.26) for eighteen days sick benefits. "WONDERFUL PROCEEDINGS FOR THE AMOUNT YOU PAY IN THE P. B. A. of A. number I. C. Gilmore, whose home was destroyed in the tornado, had very recently into a four family efficiency apartment, very rebuilt in every respect. All members who were put off by Burr, Knopke, Smith & Co., have nice positions and are paying their dues no more late.

The Organizer was in conference with Mr. Kruse, Chairman of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and the Southwest Division of said Organization, very good information was given me and some of the attitude of his group toward the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

It is expected that a Ladies' Economic Council will be organized in a very few days. As I find, through conversations with a number of the porters' wives, they no longer fear the inhumane treatment that has been formerly practiced by the hands of A. V. Burr. They are determined to stand by their husbands in this fight.

The Pastor and entire official staff of the Central Baptist Church are so interested in the porters' welfare and success that they have willingly donated their palatial edifice FREE to our Labor Conference, covering a period of three days, beginning Sunday, February 5th. This is very encouraging, as it proves most all visiting porters calling by the office, conclusively that we are amassing public sentiment and can get financial support at the call.

I appreciate all visiting porters calling by the office when in St. Louis and getting the "low-down" on the situation from the Local Organizer, E. J. Bradley, St. Louis Division.

NEW YORK DISTRICT

2311 Seventh Avenue

On January 10th, Mr. A. Philip Randolph, General Organizer, accompanied by Mr. Roy Lancaster, General Secretary-Treasurer, Vernon W. Verney, General Organizer, and Peter A. Calvin, Organizer in Washington, D. C., visited President Anthony Coolidge at the White House.

Mr. Randolph and Mr. Lancaster then proceeded to Chicago, Ill., where they attended a conference of the western organizers of the Brotherhood.

Mr. Frank R. Crosswhite, Special Organizer, is still working in Boston, Mass.

Mr. W. H. Dea Verney, the Assistant General Organizer, is at work in Washington, D. C.

Messrs. Randolph, Lancaster, Dea Verney and Anthony attended the hearings before the Inter-State Commerce Commission now on.

Mr. Randolph returned hurriedly from the Labor Conference in Kansas City to the death bed of his brother James, who died many years a Pullman porter.

Mr. Dea Verney was also called back to New York to attend the funeral of his brother.

Mr. Randolph attended labor conferences, organized by the Brotherhood, in New York City, on January 26th, and in St. Louis on February 4th.

Messrs. Abbott and Magill of the Chicago Defender recently visited the offices of the Brotherhood.

The receipts of the Brotherhood indicate that the bulk of the men are steadfastly supporting their officers in an effort to acquire the manhood rights which the men of the Brotherhood are striving so valiantly.

Put a stamp rapidly, and subscribe for *THE MESSENGER*, their only official mouthpiece. It only costs \$3.50 a year.

SPEECH DELIVERED OVER RADIO STATION WCFL

Pullman Porters and Tips

By A. PHILIP RANDOLPH
General Organizer, B. S. C. P.

It is a pleasure, kind friends, to have this privilege to tell you about the movement to organize Pullman porters for a living wage and the abolition of the tipping civil. Pullman porters have long since realized that tips are uncertain, and consequently could not be recognized as a sure basis upon which they could budget their family, consequently, they organized two and a half years ago for the purpose of securing a definitely fixed living wage.

To this end, January 21st, counsel and representatives of the Pullman porters union appeared before the Interstate Commerce Commission to support the petition filed with the Commission, asking for a ban on tipping, and an investigation of the tipping system in relation to wages, rates, hours of work and working conditions.

The questions asked by the Commissioners of Counsel for the Pullman Company, indicated that the petition rested on sound grounds. The attorneys for the Pullman Company argued that the Commission had no jurisdiction because the Union desired to raise wages. But Mr. Henry T. Hunt, Counselor for the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, pointed out that the desire of the porters to raise wages did not alter the fact of jurisdiction of the Commission over the petition for an investigation of the Pullman Company.

In the next two weeks or thirty days, the Commission will hand down its decision on the question. If it is favorable to the case of the porters, an investigation of the Company will be instituted. If it is not favorable, the porters' Union has a program to create an emergency so that the United States Interstate Commerce Board may recommend that the President appoint an Emergency Board to inquire into the whole dispute, according to the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, and hand down a decision, with a view to settling the dispute constructively and permanently.

Anticipating the probability of calling upon the President to act in the dispute, a delegation of representatives of the Union and from the City of Washington waited on President Coolidge and informed him about the facts of the case and told him that he may be called upon to appoint an Emergency Board to deal with an emergency, which would threaten the interruption of Interstate Commerce, if the porters did not get the desired relief from the Interstate Commerce Commission.

Our petition to the Commission followed the refusal of the Pullman Company to obey the recommendation of the U. S. Mediation Board to arbitrate the dispute with the Union. The Union presented its case to the Board, as provided by the Railway Labor Act, enacted by Congress, and signed by the President. The Company denied the Brotherhood's right to represent the porters, contending that the Company Union, known as the Employees Representative Union, received 85 per cent of the votes of the porters. The Brotherhood replied by presenting one thousand affidavits showing that the men had voted under intimidation and coercion which was a violation of the Railway Labor Act.

We are fighting for a living wage and the abolition of tips. Our present wage is \$72.50 a month. Tips, at the time we made our survey, in 1925, averaged \$58 a month. But they have fallen materially, partly on account of the fact that the Pullman Company broadcasted, a year or more ago, that the wages of the porters had been raised by a million dollar increase, and the public naturally feels that the Pullman Company ought to be required to pay the wages of its employees.

Our occupational expense is \$33 a month. It includes the buying of shoe polish which the porter uses to shine the passenger's shoes, for which he is penalized should he request pay, and penalized if he doesn't shine them, food in transit, and food and lodging at the termini, for not all of the porters will live in the quarters provided by the Company because they are generally undesirable, and uniforms which every porter must purchase twice a year. The Brotherhood realizes that tips enable the Company to fix wages at a low point. But tips are not only uncertain and inadequate, but they compromise the self-respect of a worker. That the Company expects the public to pay a part of the porters' wages is shown by the fact that on Tourist cars where tips are low because of the type of passengers, the porters receive a little more in wages than the porters receive on the Standard sleeping cars.

Our survey made by the Labor Bureau of New York shows that the public pays seven million dollars a year in tips or wages to the porters. The question may be raised as to whether the Pullman Company can pay a living wage to the porters. The few facts at this point will settle this matter. It may be interesting for the public to know that the original cash investment of the Pullman Company was \$36,000,000. Its capitalization today is \$136,000,000, which is the result of turning back into the Company the earnings accruing. In 1926, according to the Company's fiscal report, it earned a net profit of \$20,000,000. Since 1897, over \$245,000,000 have been distributed in cash dividends and \$64,000,000 in stock dividends.

An examination of the Pullman industry will show that the Pullman porter renders the chief service, aside from the cars supplied by the Company, which the Pullman Company sells to the public. Yet, the porter is required to give preparatory time, which consists in making ready the cars, without pay. For example, the

porter leaving New York for Washington at 12:35, reports for duty at 7:30 and work five hours without pay. The public may be also amazed to know that Pullman porters sometimes do conductors' work and porters' work together but only receive \$10 additional pay. This is obviously unfair.

Besides intimidating Pullman porters into voting for Company Union and signing the "Yellow Dog Contracts," the Company has placed a few Filipinos and Chinese on the cars as an effort also to frighten the men away from the movement. It is interesting, however, to know that none of these methods of coercion and intimidation have been effective in stemming the tide of the porters' organization.

Contrary to the propaganda of the Pullman Company, the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters will make for higher efficiency of the Company, less turnover, a higher sense of responsibility, more constructive initiative on the part of the porters than ever before. In other words, the organization will be a definite asset to the Pullman management.

The movement to organize the porters has not only met with a marvelously enthusiastic response among the porters themselves, but the Negro public has rallied to the organization with amazing solidarity. Such outstanding National Organizations as the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the Leaders of Nationality, the National Negro Labor Federation of Colored Women's Club, Elks, Knights Templars, Shriners, Knights of Pythians of New York and several religious and civic organizations.

The Labor Conferences which have been staged in New York, Washington, Boston, New York City, Chicago and St. Louis, under the auspices of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, have also served to awaken a deep public interest in the cause of the Pullman porter and his fight for a living wage.

CROSSWAITH IN BOSTON

Frank Crosswaith, Special Organizer of the Brotherhood, has been stepping on the gas in the city of Boston. Says Frank: "I have held four meetings among the membership and one with the Auxiliary. They were all well attended, the dues paid were encouraging and so was the collection at all of them. In another month Boston will reach the stage occupied by New York. I have more speaking engagements than I can physically do justice to." Mr. Crosswaith has addressed twenty or more meetings in Boston in the interests of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

In Memoriam

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters pauses in its struggle for right and justice to mourn the passing of three of its staunchest members:

C. LITTLEJOHN
1609 S. Edith Street
Albuquerque, N. M.

Who Died

January 3, 1928

and

JAMES KELLY

168 East 140th Street

New York City

Who Died

February 3, 1928

JOHN BATES

Jersey City, N. J.

9 Prescott Street

Who Died

February 6, 1928

Loyal Brothers!

May they rest in peace.

Open Forum

Dear Mr. Lancaster:

Your kind favor of the 28th ult., enclosing me a renewed card as an Honorary member of your organization, for the year 1928, was duly received.

The splendid work which you are doing for your association, I consider one of the most significant and splendid now going on in the United States.

Industrially and racially, the spirit which you have already inculcated, is priceless. Nor do I believe that there is any manner of doubt but what you will finally attain complete accomplishment in the struggle. The little that I have been able to do, to aid you, has given me the greatest possible satisfaction, and I will hold your membership card as a mark of honorable distinction, even though I do not feel entirely worthy of it.

With every good wish for the triumph of your cause, and with my kind personal regards, I am,

Sincerely,
FRANK P. WALSH.

January 16, 1928.

NEW JERSEY MASONS

The Eightieth Annual Session of the Most Worshipful United Grand Lodge F. and A. M., Prince Hall Affiliation of New Jersey, was held in Trenton, December 27th and 28th with Powell K. Martin, Grand Master, presiding.

The Administration of Grand Master Martin has been filled with marked evidences of growth and progress. Assisted by a capable staff Mr. Martin has been able to place the New Jersey Masons upon a sound financial basis and to initiate a program of constructive racial uplift.

These efforts have reached a climax in the erection of a temple at Trenton, which shall stand a fitting and perpetual monument to the efforts of these men. This temple estimated to cost more than One Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars, is already under construction and will probably be dedicated during the Spring. More than four thousand Masons from all parts of the State will attend these services.

The Craft of New Jersey number among its members the most outstanding men of the State; men whose efforts are directed toward whatever is worth while and wholesome; men who are tireless; men whose slogan is: "To succeed means to sacrifice."

The roster of officers is:

Grand Master P. K. Martin
Deputy Gr. Master...Edw. Hilton
Gr. Sen. Warden...E. S. Ballou
Gr. Jr. Warden...Hiram C. Smith
Gr. Secretary.....Chas. A. Pope
Gr. Treasurer...Roscoe L. Moore

When in Washington, D. C., Visit
the Night Club Bohemian, 1901

Eleventh Street, N. W.



Book Bits



By JAMES W. IVY

"*Camels*" (G. P. Putnam's Sons; \$2.50), by Daniel W. Streeter. This winter the black, fuzzy haired, daughter of Ethiopia makes her debut in the publishing world. There seems to be no end to the books on Africa. Almost every week there rolls from some printing press some sort of a tome on the Dark Continent. Mr. Streeter's book, unlike many others, is frankly a humorous one. We guffaw and hold our sides as we follow him from Paris to Cairo, thence up the Nile to Khartoum, and on to Singa—Town and Abyssinia. This book has a good bit of fun in it, enough to make it worth purchasing.

"*Southern Exposure*" (Chapel Hill; The University of North Carolina Press; \$2.00), by Peter Mitchell Wilson. The urbane opinions, and civilized experiences, of an old Southern gentleman.

I was amused at the shock that this very sensible gentleman experienced while on vacation in Paris. "Madame had us invited to the home of an artist of distinction where we saw some pretty pictures, heard some wonderful music, and were presented to some colored people. This was quite out of our habit, but the habit of hospitality was strong enough to make us mind our manners, though we learned 'How to don't in future invitations.'"

"*Money Writes*" (Published by the Author, Long Beach, California; \$2.50), by Upton Sinclair. "This book is a study of American literature from the economic point of view. It takes our living writers and turns their pockets inside out, asking: Where did you get it? and What did you do for it? It is not a polite book, but it is an honest book and is needed."

"It concludes a series, begun ten years ago, including 'The Profits of Religion,' 'The Brass Check,' 'The Goose Step,' 'The Goslings,' and 'Mammonart.' I read Mr. Sinclair's 'Mammonart' last summer; a few weeks ago I finished 'Money Writes'; I have been wondering since, 'What is literature in Mr. Sinclair's eyesight 'Money Writes' simply makes the matter more puzzling, for Mr. Sinclair takes the good, the bad, and the indifferent; the first rate, the second rate, and the third rate, and he looks at them all 'from the economic view.' This may be good sociology; possibly it is good socialism too, but it is certainly not literary criticism. What excites Mr. Sinclair is the fact that so many of our popular and leading novelists are openly for the plutocrats; that so few of them are imbued with the 'ideals of revolutionary labor.' If Mr. Carl Van Vechten chooses to write novels 'pour les raffines' that is Mr. Vechten's business; if Mr. Hergesheimer wants to live in an 'Ivory Tower,' that too is all right; and if

Mr. Edwin Markham must write of the 'Man with the Hoe,' who can object? Mr. Sinclair is too naive and sensitive; his ideal for the abolition of suffering is noble, of the highest order, but it is by suffering that the world goes on; some must suffer that others may not. The abolition of capitalism will, no doubt, rectify certain present evils; but it will certainly not usher in Utopia, as Mr. Sinclair imagines.

In his chapter on "The Art of Brotherhood" Mr. Sinclair writes, "So in the course of their struggle for power [the proletariat] are evolving a new and higher ideal, and constitute the germ of the new society, based upon brotherhood and co-operation."

"The advancing workers welcome all men and women to the ranks of workers whereas the exploiters do everything to keep their power in their own hands, and to keep others beneath their feet."

I wonder if Mr. Sinclair honestly believes that the workers are such angels? If he does, I, for one, will tell him that they are no whit better than their capitalist overlords who take so much delight in booting them in their rears. Why, of course "the advancing workers welcome all men and women"—except black men and women: possibly black men and black women are not men and women at all, but merely males and females of some sort of *tertium quid*. No. These "advancing workers" do not try to "keep others beneath their feet"—that is, unless they happen to be Negroes. The white worker possesses no peculiar virtues not possessed by his capitalist overlord; every dorky knows this if Mr. Sinclair doesn't. And why Mr. Sinclair should shed tears over the mass of white boobs is beyond me. What he says about their exploitation is true, and has been true throughout recorded history. A horse may throw its rider, but there is always another to vault into the saddle.

"*Negro Drawings*" (Alfred A. Knopf; \$7.50), by Miguel Covarrubias. With a preface by Ralph Barton and an Introduction by Frank Crowninshield. A year and more ago I began to notice in the pages of *Family Fair*, the journal of the sophisticates, Negro drawings by one Covarrubias. Even the most careless of them seemed to have a dash of genius. They revealed an insatiable curiosity about life; that their author had brains. So since that day I have always kept up with the drawings of Señor Covarrubias, and am by way of being an enthusiastic admirer of this great artist.

Mr. Knopf has now collected fifty-six of them and published them. They contain some of the best things that Covarrubias has done. Possessing a careful technique and a vivid sense of the realities of life

these drawings, of Covarrubias, of random types, of Harlem Negroes depict with the most apparent ease the essential characteristics of the particular type drawn.

Take the "Man With Cap"—one glance and we are impressed with this loafer type of Negro, the "sweet-back." Notice how the exaggerated hands and feet of the "Charleston" suggest the rhythm of this dance. "Come to Jesus"—another vivid portrayal of reality. Then there are many others that are worthy of attention: "Cake Walk," "Strut"; "Double Charleston"; "At Leroy's"; "The Bolito King"; and "La Negrita."

Because *el Mexicano*, Señor Covarrubias, chooses to exaggerate a lip, to make balls of darky kinks, or pancakes of black noses, do not be offended, he is not poking fun, but merely using the technique of the seeing, thinking artist; a genius and one who depicts us with sympathy and truthfulness. By all means add this collection of drawings to your library.

"*For Freedom: A Biographical Story of the American Negro*" (Philadelphia; Franklin Pub. & Supply Co.) by Arthur Huff Fauset. With drawings by Mabel Betsy Hill. Here we have the prize winner in a new role—a writer of inspirational biography for wide awake, race-conscious Negro children. Mr. Fauset is the young man who carried off one of the "Opportunity Contest" literary prizes and was also a gatherer of Negro folk lore in the South. In his new role of biographer and historian he is just as interesting. For the young Negro child he has written lovingly and sympathetically of our most significant Negroes; Benjamin Banneker, Sojourner Truth, Frederick Douglass, Blanche K. Bruce, Booker T. Washington, George Washington Carver, Roland Hayes, Matt Henson, Dr. DuBois, Paul Lawrence Dunbar, Alain L. Locke, and the indicating figures among the new Negroes. The book is written in simple language, is well gotten up, has many drawings and photographs too. I am sure that every Negro child will be heartily interested in it.

"*Why Men Hate Women*" (Payson & Clarke, Ltd.; \$1.50), by Gelett Burgess. Illustrated by Herb Roth. Do the men hate the women? Mr. Gelett Burgess seems to think they do, and ascribes it to "Varm, that subtle, and (to men) repellent atmosphere of femininity which surrounds like an aura."

"But don't think it's 'sexy' sex I mean, though; Varm is the very antithesis of charm. Varm is the specialized feminine form of intellect and behaviour. And Varm is what makes men hate women."

Mr. Burgess to prove his thesis, gives many of the stock feminine foibles, already

known to every cynical male, and adds nothing new but his humor.

"*Recreation And Amusement Among Negroes in Washington, D. C.*" (Howard University Press), by William H. Jones. The subtitle of this book is "A Sociological Analysis of the Negro in an Urban Environment," and it forms the first title in a "sociological series" to "be confined to carefully conducted surveys of various aspects of the social life of Negroes in large urban centers." Mr. Jones has done a competent piece of work in his volume. For the first time we have a detailed and scientific study of recreation and amusement among a more or less representative group of urban Negroes. Residential segregation, with its attendant evils, is responsible for the accentuation of many evils in Negro urban amusements, and, too, gives rise to many problems which are peculiar to us alone. Mr. Jones' book handles them all with the same scientific impartiality: games, sports, the church, the cabaret, the barber shop, the playground, etc. At the end of his book he offers us twelve "Recommendations" for "the improvement of the leisure time phases of Negro social life in Washington." The book has a good index and bibliography.

"*The Changing South*" (Boni and Liveright; \$3.00), by William J. Robertson. This book itself is proof enough that the South is changing: any time a Southerner can write of that section with the frankness and candor used by Robertson, things must be changing. There is a resolute minority in the South that is intelligent and, above all, realistic; they are certainly not afraid of facing the facts, which the old type Southerner would never do. I by no means agree with all that Mr. Robertson has to say, but I admire the courage of the southern white who dares to think for himself. His chapter on the Negro is new only in its frankness and lack of rancor; but the best of them are the ones on "Education," "Social Conditions," and "The One Law," a study of the workings of prohibition in the South. Our leading Negroes must needs read Mr. Robertson for he is the type of Southerner who is gradually emerging, solidifying his power, and in more than one place is being respectfully listened to.

"*The Roll of Honor*" (Enterprise Book Distributors, 357 Edgecombe Ave.; \$1.00), by Willis Scott. This book is the story of the exploits of Charles Williams a great Negro business man. As Mr. Willis Scott, the author, says in a note. It "is a vindication in story form of the Negro as a successful business man. It was designed expressly to create confidence in the executive ability of the Negro."

"*Soviet Russia and Her Neighbors*" (Vanguard Press; \$0.50), by R. Page Arnot. This is one of the books in the "Vanguard Studies of Soviet Russia," edited by Jerome Davis. One of the most despicable chapters in the history of 1917-27 is the attitude of the capitalist nations of the world toward Soviet Russia. It has ranged from open hostility to veiled threats and the financial support of the whites, and their various generals, in their efforts to overthrow the Soviets. It may seem paradoxical that the one nation which has tried to make a practical application of the

Countee Cullen

JAMES EDWARD MCCALL

Out in the night, I hear a liquid note,
I pause and listen, as it sweeter
grows;
It is a singer with a golden throat,
And heart in which the fire of
genius glows.
I hear him singing in the twilight
hush—
Caroling songs that warm the heart
like wine:
No sweet-voiced nightingale or her-
mit-thrush
Could thrill the world with music
more divine,
Though young in years, he sings as
one whose heart
Has sung for ages. Yet, he wears
his crown
So modestly that men, thrilled by his
art,
Pay tribute and forget his face is
brown.
Unselfishly, his soul seeks to inspire
In other souls, divine poetic fire.

Allied "democratic principles," in her international relations, should be ostracised from the family of nations; yet, upon reflection there is nothing at all strange about it. For the Allied Powers never meant what they said about "secret treaties," "freedom of the seas" the "right of self determination, etc." Much of the hatred of the Soviets comes from the wilful ignorance of the Western Powers in confusing the *Komintern*, with its program of a world wide revolution, with the Soviet Government. The reasons for hatred are not exactly the same for any two powers; although all of them have good reasons for hating a government that is frankly socialistic and the sworn enemy of capitalism. This is the basic reason for the existence of this new "Holy Alliance" of the "Haves," and their opposition to a government of the "Have-nots." Mr. Arnot gives us a broad analysis of the relations of the Soviet Union with all the major powers of the world. Russia's attitude as well as that of the other powers toward Russia, France, Great Britain, the United States, Italy, China, Japan, Turkey, Germany, etc., are all shown in their relation to the Soviet Union.

"*Religion Under the Soviets*" (Vanguard Press; \$0.50), by Julius F. Hecker. Mr. Hecker shows that despite the atheistic beliefs of the members of the government, Russia is, for the first time, enjoying genuine religious freedom. There are even Baptists among the Bolsheviks; if they are tolerated by the commissars surely there is religious freedom.

The other books in this series which I have read are—"The Economic Organization of the Soviet Union," by Scott Nearing and Jack Hardy. This book answers the question "How do the Russians earn their living under the Soviet System? How is the Soviet economic machinery organized? Is there private capital in the Soviet Union, and if so, how much? Is the Soviet economic system speeding up or slowing down? Is the Soviet Union moving toward socialism or capitalism?" Next is "How the

Soviets Work," by H. N. Brailsford. "An attempt to give an account of the working of the Soviets as a political system." The last one is "Village Life Under the Soviets," by Karl Borders. A study of the daily life of the people in Soviet Russia.

These books are written by authorities in their respective fields; are sane, and are minus propaganda, either for or against the Soviets; the facts are presented to speak for themselves.

"*Economic History of The United States*" (G. P. Putnam's Sons; \$1.75), by Robert M. McElroy. Dr. McElroy is the Harold Vyvyan Harmsworth Professor of American History in Oxford University and an authority in his field. His little book of 86 pages gives the essential facts of our economic history in outline. Its one fault is the lack of an index and a table of contents.

"*Kilima-njaro: An Eastern African Vicariate*" (Society for the Propagation of the Faith), by The Right Rev. H. A. Gogarty, E. S. P. The average Catholic priest is a much more civilized man than his Protestant brother, and this book certainly proves it. Father Gogarty opens his book with a short historical sketch of the vicariate of Kilima-njaro, named after Africa's highest mountain, tells us of the coming of Islam, about the Portuguese Conquest, the return of the Catholic Church to Africa, the mission station of Kilima-njaro, the customs of the Wachaga, the beliefs and superstitions of the natives, about Tanga, and the reopening of the Ufumi Mission. This is one book on missions that I have enjoyed hugely and I hope my readers will like it as well as I did.

Aviator's Hymn

Great God of earth and sky
Behold us as we pray;
Grant us Thy mercy as we fly
And with us ever stay:

Withhold the wrath of fire
Thy Arm can never fail;
A path of safety we desire
O'er every ill prevail.

The blinding storm and snow,
With driving rain and hail;
Against these we are forced to go
Oh help us to prevail!

From depths of oceans deep,
And mountains lurid height;
Guard us lest we might fall asleep
Upon our perilous flight.

We cleave the daily way
Through endless clouds on high;
But Thou alone remains our stay
Oh hear us and draw nigh:

The tidings do we bear
Over the land and sea;
So others will our blessings share
And give thanks Lord to Thee!

Great God of earth and sky
Be with us when we pray;
Aloft we raise our wings on high
Lord grant us Grace to stay!

HENRY B. WILKINSON.

Shafts and Darts

(Continued from page 59)

barred building. Promptly at seven o'clock, Abe Normal, nattily dressed in a blue suit of latest design, with shirt, socks and tie to match, came jauntily down the steps of the courthouse surrounded by grim-looking deputies. All posed for photographs and the prisoner promised the City Editor of the *Daily Offal* the sole rights to his autobiography. He was then hustled into a big limousine which immediately drove off. A parting pun from the lips of Abe Normal set the crowd to laughing good naturedly.

According to O. Fall Lyre, the attorney

for Abe Normal, a writ of habeas corpus will be filed immediately. (Pictures on Page 5).

NEGRO LYNCHED FOR ASSAULT

White Woman Identifies Assailant

Mob Overpowers Sheriff and Deputies

Ginboro, Miss., February 31, 1928:—After several hours of pursuit through the swamps of lower Mississippi, Joe Boob, Negro, was captured by a posse of infuriated citizens near here yesterday. He was immediately flung into the sheriff's automobile and hurried to the White Mule

County Jail where he was placed under heavy guard to avoid lynching. These precautions, however, were fruitless, as a huge crowd soon assembled and clamored for the prisoner. After the Negro had been identified by Marjorie Cretin of Clatrap, Miss., as her assailant, and, until yesterday, one of her father's hands, the demands of the crowd grew louder. Soon they stormed the jail, overpowered the sheriff and his deputies and removed the prisoner, who was later burned on a pile of rubbish in the town square. The body was then dragged through the Negro section behind an automobile, followed by a yelling cavalcade of white men, women and children. The charred body was then deposited at a Negro undertaking parlor. A death certificate was later filed stating that Joe Boob had died of extreme exhaustion and high temperature. Today (Sunday) Ginboro was back to normal and the houses of worship were crowded as usual.



**Resources
Over
\$5,000,000.00**

**Insurance
in
Force
\$75,000,000.00**

**First—In Size,
In Service and
In Strength**

Guarding the Citadel

Every Negro in America has a tremendous stake in the guarding of this citadel over which the National Benefit stands sentinel. The lives of our children and our children's children—for generations yet unborn—these too are vitally concerned in the manner of its guardianship.

For the citadel is the Citadel of Negro Commercial Progress and in its protection and strengthening lies our hope as a Race to obtain for ourselves—and those to follow us—the splendor of Equal Opportunity and Higher Standards of Living and Attainment.

Against all invaders, over nearly three decades of years, the National Benefit has held every breach, repelled every attack, kept intact this stronghold of the Race.

As the largest and strongest Negro enterprise—as the greatest Negro financial institution on earth—the post is its by right as well as by choice.

Stand with it—do business with Negro enterprises—insure in Negro companies—their future is the future of the Race.

The National Benefit Life Insurance Company
WASHINGTON, D. C.

Stenographers Efficiently Trained

We teach shorthand that one can read and transcribe; students are taught to manipulate typewriting machines by "touch" rapidly and accurately; business law is fascinating; and our bookkeeping and filing system is unique. Spring term begins April 2, 1928. Write EDWARD T. DUNCAN Principal, The Stenographers' Institute, popularly known as Duncan's Business School, 1227 S. 17th Street, Philadelphia, Pa. A large building has been purchased for 1928.

Not Many of Your People

(Continued from page 57)

that instead, of trying to "cease sacrificing their self respect by attending theatres which stigmatize them," as he puts it—overrun the jim crow section. We can easily get this idea from the fact that when these houses bring colored shows they expand the jim crow section. Just why? The answer is that the management knows that a large number of colored people are coming to witness the show, and makes room for the extra influx of dollars.

I don't advocate the overflowing of the segregated section in order to flaunt to the world that you are more willing than now to debase yourself, and that you are exceedingly happy in this inferior lot. The reason for doing this is when you protest to the management about your poor accommodations, you will have the weight of dollars and numbers behind you, and those in charge will consider your grievances very carefully before they turn away the good shekels from their door.

The second reason for doing this is to get white people in the habit of seeing you in the theatre. The most prejudice is found where the two races are wildly separated, and very seldom come in any contact with each other. It may be all right to stay away and fight, but the fighting will be much more effective if you are on the battle

line. The way for colored people to get elected to political office is not to stay away and talk glibly about the rights of man, but to get in and run for office. Sometimes after the white people get used to seeing you run, they will split among themselves and elect you. In the same way they will get used to seeing you at the theatre, and won't object to your presence.

So I would say that the first effective way of remedying the situation is to overrun the jim crow sections, the whole theatre if need be, for the manager will somehow find room for your dollars. These will contribute to the upkeep of the place and will get them used to seeing, as well as being with you which is a great step towards true understanding.

My second point may at first glance appear to have no connection at all with the issue. It is to support the little theatre movement now spreading through this country.

With all our boasted progress, it is an undeniable fact that we have progressed very little in our appreciation of what is best in the drama and musical shows. This is evidenced by the very low grade of entertainment in the colored houses. I have many times gone down Broadway to revivals of Shakespeare, Ibsen, and some of the other old masters, and have seen very few colored people. This also holds true for O'Neill, Shaw, Galsworthy, and the other worth while moderns. In fact I have seen very few at the big feature pictures. There is very little, if any prejudice on Broadway now. But if the managers suddenly decide to put us in the gallery, there will be too few of us to make any difference, for we pay very little of the thousands of dollars necessary to run them for a year.

Our lack of appreciation is further proven by the fact that our own artists in our own houses have failed to make us patronize the better class of entertainment. The failure of the Lafayette Players, The Ethiopian Art Theatre, and other worth while colored organizations are examples. I was in the audience in the Lincoln Theatre last summer when Jules Bledsoe came there in Emperor Jones. This play had toured the country, and had even been produced in foreign countries. It is hailed as one of the best of the modern one act plays, and was for the first time playing in colored houses. Yet, this audience howled, whistled, and hissed the actors until the acting of the play was impossible. The whole scene was disgusting as well as pitiable.

Now since the appreciation of the best in the theatre is acquired rather than instinctive, we've got to get our preliminary study somewhere. I would suggest the little theatre because they do not depend upon large numbers, nor large capital. The small number at first would gradually spread to larger numbers, and soon we would have a multitude of people flocking to the professional theatres with the results advocated above.

Two of the other things advocated by the author of the article were especially good. One was the securing of financial interest in the various theatres. This would bring pressure on the situation from another angle. If people have money to invest, they usually can do it in theatre stock if they want to. I have seen advertisements of stock in the Roxy enterprises, as well as many others.

The other point brought out was to keep a number of test cases in court. This is an excellent idea, but if it is carried out in the future like it has been in the past I would condemn it. In the past it has been one lone Negro going down in a multitude of white people demanding some privilege which did not particularly concern the other people in the town or city. It has usually been some doctor who has made his pile off of colored people, and is now ready to move out and live in a rich white neighborhood apart from his people. Of course he has the legal right to live where he pleases but what's the use of fanning a lot of prejudice into fire when there is no real demand for that particular thing on the part of the race. We should reserve our fights for the things we actually need. So if we are going to have test cases let's go down in a gang of fifty or a hundred, thus assuring the management that we are going to be there more or less whenever he has a good show. This may sound like a foolish argument, but no person can be expected to do things for the accommodation of a few when it will result in a loss. Things shouldn't be that way, but the truth of the matter is that they are, and the old adage is still true: "He who pays the fiddler will call the tune."

I want to see the "Circus Princess" today. It is one of the costliest of the Shuberts' operettas. My desire to see it was kindled when I read where a special performance was given for Lindbergh when he returned from France. Well, my seat was off in a corner of the third balcony. I was the only Negro there, for if others had been there, I would have seen them. If I had gone down and protested, the manager would undoubtedly have told me that if I went anywhere else, twenty people would have walked out, and would have ended by saying, "It is better to do without your seventy-five cents than to do without seventy-five times twenty. Any fool can see that. Now if I could have assured him that if these twenty walked out, I know five times that many who will come, I believe he would have let me go where I please. I couldn't assure him that, because I know that in places where they don't have this nefarious practice, that number of my people does not go."

In conclusion then, we can say that the Negro has never calmly, nor gladly, nor willingly accepted the debasing practice of segregation as it is practiced in American theatres. It is true that they have gone under such conditions; but the whole problem is just an aspect of the vaster problem of discrimination everywhere. It cannot be met here, no more than in other places, by staying away and squawking. The best solution is to overcrowd the jim crow sections. This will prove hard and humiliating at first, but it will be productive of lasting results, because the theatre owners will adjust matters quicker when he has a large attendance, for it will increase the income of the place, besides having the might of numbers. This is to be done in connection with other financial interest that they can secure in the place. Test cases should be constantly tried, but they should more and more be cases with dollars and numbers behind them instead of just one lone Negro in a multitude of whites. The support of the little theatres is advocated in order to give the masses training in the appreciation

of the better and finer things in the theatre. This will stimulate them to go out and support the best in all the fields of public entertainment.

Mr. Weller and the League of Neighbors

By A. P. RANDOLPH

The League of Neighbors is not just another organization. Nor is Mr. Weller, its leader, just another president.

The League lives up to the name in comprising a variety of races, nationalities and creeds. Its controlling motif is the philosophy of brotherhood which makes of all peoples neighbors.

I received my first close-up of this Boston organization, January 5th, at one of their luncheons where I spoke. I then for the first time, felt the force of the spirit and personality of Mr. Weller. Besides being big of body, he is big of mind and spiritual vision. When he stood up physically to speak on a question, you, somehow, felt that he was also standing up spiritually for a great cause. He seems to express in his being, his speech, manner and attitude, the great creative principle of mutual helpfulness. Verily, Mr. Weller is a fine soul which challenges the admiration of the most grudgingly critical. To know him is to love him. He is one nature's noblemen, working for the achievement of the good and beautiful life that mankind may not be distressingly unwitting of its way.

Sister Louise-Marie

(Continued from page 52)

No, had Queen Marie-Theresa lived in our day she would have had to be more careful, that's all. Even her apparently clever manner in paying the way before by expressing the fear that she might have a child resembling her little Negro might not have helped her.

As to the Black Nun, little of her real life seems to be known. In the library of Ste. Genevieve there is a specimen of her handwriting. But as LeNotre says: "We may be certain that it was a long and unhappy martyrdom for this innocent woman thus to see herself separated from the world against her will and condemned from her infancy to perpetual confinement."

Editorials Rated

(Continued from page 63)

- Is the language in keeping with the subject?
- Is the writer's use of English fairly correct?
- Is there evidence of prejudice for or against?
- Is there evidence of exaggeration?
- Is the composition rhetorically correct?
- Is the title in every way adequate?
- Does the editorial accomplish the purpose it set out to accomplish? (This summing up is not to be confused with No. 3). The editorial pages of fifty principal

THE MESSENGER

Negro newspapers in the United States were carefully perused each month, one "best" editorial was selected and reprinted in *THE MESSENGER*, while twelve other editorials were given honorable mention in the order of their excellence from 1 to 12. In all, 156 editorials were selected. This work was done by Mr. Eugene Gordon, a very capable Negro journalist employed as Feature Editor of *The Boston Post*, oldest and largest daily newspaper in New England.

The rating of the Negro newspapers according to the excellence of their editorials for the year 1927 is as follows:

Name of Newspaper	Rating
1. The Pittsburgh Courier.....	160
2. The Journal and Guide.....	130
3. The N. Y. Amsterdam News.....	119
4. The Chicago Defender.....	116
5. The Kansas City Call.....	74
6. The Philadelphia Tribune.....	68
7. The New York Age.....	51

EDITORIALS

(Continued from page 61)

given expression to their view points from the angle of religion on actual industrial struggles, such as the Western Maryland Railroad strike, the Conference considered it timely and wise to have both the Negro and white clergymen represented in handling this important theme.

But whatever may be the attitude of various social religious political and civic agencies toward the Negro worker or white worker, unless the workers themselves will deliberately and systematically secure education about the economic, social and political institutions and forces of modern society so that they may be guided intelligently

8. The Afro-American	47
9. The Chicago Bee.....	44
The Chicago Whip.....	44
10. The Inter-State Tattler.....	43
11. The Boston Chronicle.....	30
12. Negro World	21
Dallas Express.....	21
13. The Black Dispatch	17
14. The Washington Tribune.....	16
15. Atlanta Independent	16
The Houston Informer.....	12
17. Birmingham Reporter.....	11
New York News.....	11
18. The Public Journal (Phil.)..	7
19. The Detroit Independent....	6
20. The Florida Sentinel.....	5
21. The St. Luke Herald.....	4
The East Tennessee News....	4
22. The Union (Cincinnati, O.)..	3
23. California Eagle	2
Washington Eagle	2
24. The Louisiana Weekly.....	1

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in the formulation of programs of actions, there is no hope for them. Worker's educational institutions have been established in Europe and America in order to meet the need of the workers to understand the industrial machinery of which they are a part, and successfully cope with the industrial masters that seek to exploit them. In order that the Negro workers might be aware of the movement for workers' education and its importance, the Conference included in its agenda the Negro worker and education.

Other subjects that engaged the attention of the Conference were the Negro worker and social service movements, the Negro worker and the cultural arts, the Negro worker and Negro business, and the Negro worker and the Negro woman.

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